

DCCCD Retention Best Practice Submission Form

Across the district there are many successful practices that contribute to the retention of students. As the district begins to develop a greater emphasis on its retention strategy, all locations are asked to identify and submit information about successful retention programs and activities. Please complete the following information on selected practices.

College/Location: Richland

The Retention Best Practice is primarily supported by what college/location area:

Instruction Student Services _____ Administrative _____

Combination of areas: (Please list)

Contact Person: (Include contact information)

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Retention Best Practice Title:

Faculty Teaching Labs Associated with Assigned Lecture Classes

(Faculty Teach Their Own Labs)

Retention Best Practice Area of Focus:

Math _____ STEM Honors College _____ Other:

Retention Best Practice Executive Summary: approximately 50 words (Please use additional pages for a detailed description)

We have long requested (when possible) that faculty teach their own labs. This practice is in place of having other faculty or adjuncts teach the labs assigned to them—or having staff (IA's) teach them as part of their regular responsibilities rather than qualified faculty. This provides great integration of lecture and lab environments that are associated with the same lessons each week. Concepts presented in lecture can then be best carried forward as the students apply these concepts to their labs. Faculty can track individual students more closely and have a real time understanding of their lab performance that is directly associated with the understanding of materials for any specific part of the semester (and the associated exams). Students can then count on the constant environment and expectations as follows the same lecture and lab teacher concept. We feel strongly that having faculty teach their own labs lets them support and work to remediate specific needs for each student.

Please describe the evaluation measures utilized to support this initiative as a best practice.

Class grades semester to semester are closely followed as are the performance of students from exam to exam. Lab exams and collaborative learning activities in lecture also mark progress of the students.

Please submit this form to Dr. Sharon L. Blackman, DCCCD Educational Affairs by October 24, 2008

Provide a summary of the results, including data (such as trend lines over time) to show how it impacted retention and is a best practice.

We have not followed those sections in the distant past where we did not have the lab. Informally we can on occasion see this (when semester schedule requires an adjunct to cover a lab), but since most of the time we have our own labs, we do not.

What would be needed to replicate the practice at other DCCCD colleges?

The Dean will need to examine schedules of his/her faculty and make assignments as possible.

Cost to implement this practice (financial and human):

Unknown as this depends upon the current practice at an individual campus.

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October 24, 2008***