2013-14 Program Review

Best Practices Form

Instructions: *Submit this form as a separate attachment with your completed Program Review.* Programs often do something particularly well; usually they have learned through assessment—sometimes trial and error—what solves a problem or makes their programs work so well. These are often called ***Best Practices*** and can help others. Please share the practices your program has found to be effective. The contact information lets others know whom to contact for more information. This part of Program Review is linked to the Student Success Strategic Goal: "Become an exemplary model of student success by developing and implementing best practices." For examples of Best Practices visit the Program Review Committee's website.

Program/Department: ____Engineering _____ Name of Chair/Director/Manager: ___Sean Caras_____

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Best Practice(s):

Engineering is a challenging curriculum, especially when students enroll in the second semester of calculus. Activities to build community, provide professional development, and increase academic confidence/maturity have been found to increase the persistence level in the major. These "pedagogies of engagement" include:

1. The Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement program where qualified students are provided free tutoring, books, and computer/printing access.
2. Engineering STEM Mentor (CSUB engineering student) who meets regularly with freshmen students to advise them on successful college behaviors and decisions.
3. A broad-based Supplemental Instruction program that has proven to be effective in increasing student success in chemistry, math, and physics courses – important support courses for engineering. STEM Assistants, BC students who serve as peer mentors, are chosen by STEM faculty to provide supplemental instruction. These STEM Assistants attend the faculty member's class, develop a relationship with students in the class, and offer supplemental instructional assistance outside of class.
4. There are four strong engineering clubs (Society of Hispanic Engineers, Engineers Club, National Society of Black Engineers, and Women in Science and Engineering) which provide leadership opportunities. Students attend professional conferences, visit fours year universities and relevant industries, develop resumes and practice interviewing, and learn to build social and professional networks.