

Program Updates

2020-2021 Academic Year

Retreat Highlights

The advisory board decided to hold virtual space for the 2019-2020 faculty cohort to continue networking, especially since they were teaching entirely online for an indefinite amount of time. As shown in Table 1, Zoom drop ins were held. These drop ins did not have a main focus; instead, they were open to what faculty (1) needed to discuss the most, and (2) to continue sharing space.

Zoom Drop-In Observations

Faculty expressed that they wanted some sort of closure with one another and with the advisory board, and that they still wanted to be part of this community.

A couple faculty still wanted to have some sort of mentorship and community, which again amplifies the need to have the 2019-20 cohorts in whatever programming we decide for next year.

A faculty member said that she felt "fortified" after talking to others again from the program, even online.

Faculty of Color Cross-Institutional Mentoring Program

2020-2021

Community colleges in the SBCTC system continued remote instruction due to the COVID-19 pandemic for the entire 2020-2021 academic year. During this time, mostly due to the uncertainty of the pandemic, the Faculty of Color Cross-Institutional Mentorship Program started a "pause" for the year and would use the time for program assessment and review.

Because the Spring 2020 retreat was cancelled due to the "[Stay Home, Stay Healthy](#)" order from Governor Jay Inslee, **the advisory board decided to continue having communication (i.e. welcome and check in emails) with the same faculty cohort for the 2020-2021 year.**

QUARTER	DATES	FACILITATORS
FALL 2020	Thursday, October 15 th , 2020, 4:00-6:00pm Thursday, December 3 rd , 2020 3:30-5:30pm	Donna Miguel, Tina Young Donna Miguel, Tina Young, Yvonne Terrell-Powell
WINTER 2021	February 26 th , 2021 4:00-5:30pm	Donna Miguel, Tina Young, Gita Bangera, Yvonne Terrell-Powell
SPRING 2021	Thursday, May 28th, 2021 4:00-5:30pm	Donna Miguel, Gita Bangera

Table 1. Fall 2020, Winter 2021, Spring 2021 Zoom Drop Ins

Program Website

[FOCCIMP Site](#)

Advisory Board

Bridgette Agpaoa Ryder
(Tacoma)

Gita Bangera (Bellevue)

Rachel Endo (UW-T)

Donna Miguel (Bellevue)

Tanya Powers (Highline)

Raquel Ruedas (Cascadia)

Yvonne Terrell-Powell
(Edmonds)

Tanya Velasquez (UW-T)

Tina Young

Q&A

Q. What happened to the mentoring program when the pandemic was officially declared¹ in March 2020?

A. In Spring 2020, there was a planned retreat, but when the Governor Jay Inslee instituted his “[Stay Home, Stay Healthy](#)” mandate in February, all higher education went entirely remote. Due to the ban on gatherings, the retreat was cancelled. The advisory board decided to hold a virtual Zoom check-ins for the 2019-2020 faculty cohort that continued into the 2020-2021 academic year.

Q. Was there still a mentoring program during the pandemic?

A. Kind of! The program was on a “pause” to reassess and review the program. The advisory board spent this time with a consultant, who provided recommendations on how the program could evolve, especially during a pandemic. While there were no retreats or official mentoring, the board members still sent check-in emails, and held Zoom check-ins for the 2019-2020 cohort throughout the academic year.

¹ The WHO declared COVID-19 a pandemic on March 11, 2020:

<https://www.who.int/director-general/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19---11-march-2020>

