

CATESOL Position Paper on the California Community College Chancellor's Office Tool, Data Mart Basic Skills Progress Tracker, and the Basic Skills Report Prepared for the State of California

This resolution to the California Community College Academic Senate was drafted based on input from the CATESOL Community College Level members at their level meeting held during the 2013 CATESOL Annual Conference and was submitted to and approved by the CATESOL Board of Directors at their meeting on 18 May 2014.

Academic Senate Resolution - State Plenary, Spring 2014 Consistency in Data Mart ESL Basic Skills Progress Tracker

Whereas, The California Community College Chancellor's Office tool, Data Mart Basic Skills Progress Tracker, is used to compile the Basic Skills Report for the state of California, integrating data from all basic skills/ESL courses at all California Community Colleges (CCCs) for the purpose of measuring quality of programs at a college level;

Whereas, The ESL programs of CCCs are unique from other basic skills classes in having complex intricacies such as nonlinear course sequencing, multiple skill strands at the same level, complicated sequencing in the pathway to transfer, and varied coding including noncredit, non-degree applicable credit, degree-applicable credit, and transferable credit in the same department; and

Whereas, An analysis by a subcommittee of the California Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (CATESOL) of several ESL departments' data in Data Mart Basic Skills Progress Tracker has revealed several errors, including but not limited to wrong courses being tracked, courses missing, and incorrect coding of courses, all resulting in an inaccurate picture of success data of ESL departments;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges provide information and guidance to ESL departments throughout the California Community College system to ensure that all ESL courses are accurately and consistently coded in alignment for the purpose of collecting and reporting accurate data in the Data Mart Basic Skills Progress Tracker tool; and

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the California Community Colleges Chief Instructional Officers to facilitate accurate entry of ESL coding into the Data Mart Basic Skills Progress Tracker tool.

The following faculty are available to answer questions regarding the resolution: Leigh Anne Shaw, Skyline College shawl@smccd.edu Kathy Wada, Cypress College kwada@cypresscollege.edu