

FACULTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT APPLICATION

Fall 2016

Name of Person Submitting Request:		Diane Hunter
Program or Service Area:		English
Division:		Arts & Humanities
Date of Last Program Efficacy:		2013
What rating was given?		Continuation
# of FT faculty: 17	# of part-time faculty: 49	Faculty Load (per semester): 36
Strategic Initiatives Addressed:(See Position Requested:		Full-time, tenured faculty position (2)
http://www.valleycollege.edu/about-sbvc/office-of-president/college_planning_documents/documents/strategic-plan-report-working-doc-8-25-15-2.pdf)		1.1, 1.9, 1.10, 1.11, 1.12, 2.1, 2.5.5, 2.5.6, 2.6, 2.14

1. Provide a rationale for your request. (Explain, in detail, the need for this position.)

-Despite a college-wide decline in enrollment, from 2013/2014 – 2015/2016, the English Department has seen a significant increase in FTES, from 870-973, up 130 FTES. This 12% increase along with increased sections (140 in FA15, 145 in SP16, 148 FA16, and over 150 in SP17), requires more full-time faculty.

-With the current 49 part-time faculty and 17 full-time faculty, the percentage of sections taught by full-time faculty continues to decline, now at 47%. As we increase the number of sections to help meet the college's FTES and growth goals, the ratio of FT to PT instructors will continue to decline below 47%, This number would be lower if not for the **unsustainable** use of overload by FT faculty. As we increase the number of sections and FTES, the ratio of FT to PT instructors will continue to decline below 47%, further support for a second full-time English position.

-With 67% of students assessing into remedial courses, there is a need for consistency, continuity, and stability that a full-time instructor can provide for basic skills students by having a set location (offices) in which to meet and tutor students; holding regular office hours; the benefit of attending meetings: department meetings that focus on curriculum, pedagogy, and student success; division meetings that focus on partnerships, goals, access, and student success; and college-wide meetings that focus on SBVC's EMP and Strategic goals for student access and success. Part-time faculty members, who teach over 53% of our classes, also teach classes at other campuses, often up to three other campuses. Their teaching obligations at other colleges and drive times do not allow part-time instructors the time to develop the consistent, in-depth support required for our students as can full-time faculty, which is particularly critical for Basic Skills and language learners.

-Additionally, with 500% increase in the number of AA-T-English degrees awarded in 2015/16, we need to ensure that the required degree courses are offered in sequence to avoid delaying students' completion and transfer. This is particularly important with state-wide focus on the number of AA-T Degrees awarded and local goals to increase transfer rates. Most of the degree courses are taught by full-time faculty due to the specialized nature of many courses, as well as the stability and support that full-time faculty can provide, and to maintain this rate of growth for our degree program requires a second full-time position.

-Another factor is that all English composition classes are 4 units, so part-time faculty must teach fewer sections per semester than other disciplines, where classes are 3 units, in order to comply with contractual load requirements. This situation will remain constant, which also supports a second full-time position.

-The pool of part-time faculty continues to dwindle since instructors choose to teach at other colleges or accept full-time positions because of significant wage differences. In 2015/2016, we hired 17 new part-time faculty and expect to hire at least 5-8 additional for the 2016/17 year. The

turnover results in inconsistencies that directly impact student success, which can only be mitigated by approving another full-time position.

-Over the last 3 years, there has been an increase in the number of disciplines requiring English prerequisites (ENGL 914 and ENGL 015) for their courses in response to state and local Academic Senate recommendations. Adding sections to accommodate these students and not delay their progress is critical and further supports rationale for adding full-time faculty.

-The College's Strategic Master Plan indicates goals to increase offerings of English Basic Skills classes and ESL classes which requires additional full-time faculty.

-Current full-time faculty are already serving as key facilitators (officers, chair/co-chairs) of many committees, sub-committees, and college-wide events, such as Academic Senate (4 senators from English, two serving as Senate Executive Members), Arts and Lectures, Program Review, Basic Skills, Curriculum, Honors, OEI and Tech Committees. . One of the 17 full-time instructors serves as Lead Writing Center Instructor and Lead ESL Instructor. Most of these faculty receive re-assigned time (teaching fewer sections), which is the equivalent of one FT instructor, so hiring 2 FT faculty will just allow us to maintain status quo.

-Full-time faculty are needed in order for the department to create new partnerships and participate special programs like Puente, Summer Bridge, Tumaini, First Year Experience, and the Strong Workforce that includes college's desire to create programs that lead to interdisciplinary career pathways. Such participation requires a significant time commitment and familiarity with college programs that are better suited for full-time faculty. Additional full-time faculty will ensure the department maintains this quality level participation and student support.

2. Indicate how the content of the department/program's latest Efficacy Report and/or current EMP supports this request and how the request is tied to program planning. (*Directly reference the relevant information from your latest Efficacy Report and/or current EMP in your discussion.*)

The 12% increase in FTES paired with consistent WSCH-404, retention-80%, and success rates-57% indicate a strong, stable department that is positioned for growth. The increase in the number of AA-T English degrees from 2 to 10 further emphasizes the need for additional full-time faculty who teach the majority of degree required classes. Student enrollment in English classes is up from 7024 (2015/2016 EMP) to 7462, a 6%, increase (438), and the number of sections offered up by 10 (140 to 150/semester). This data emphasizes the demand for classes and supports the request for full-time faculty. The department has increased in every area, except the number of full-time faculty members. Additional full-time faculty are essential for any sustained growth and student success.

3. Indicate any additional information you want the committee to consider (*for example, course fill rates, regulatory information, compliance, updated efficiency, student success data, planning, etc.*).

To further support the need for full-time English faculty, it should be noted that our "core classes" 914, 015, 101, 102 maintain consistent fill rates over 90%, and frequently 100% or higher. The most recent data, SP16, indicates fill rates for these classes at 90%, 93%, 99%, and 95% respectively. These numbers indicate that we have not yet reached a level of maximum offerings to meet student needs, which supports a second full-time position.

4. What are the consequences of not filling this position?

If the position is not filled, we will continue struggling to locate qualified part-time faculty members, the percentage of English courses taught by full-time faculty will negatively impact the college's Full-time Faculty Obligation Number (FON), and we will have to cancel sections. It is certain, we will not be able to grow any further without additional full-time faculty members.