

AAOI Blueprint for 2011-2012

Mission

The African American Outreach Initiative (AAOI) is a district-wide collaboration of faculty, staff and administrators dedicated to improving the access and success rates of African American students in LACCD. The AAOI will serve as a liaison to the various colleges and will focus on the following areas:

1. Community Ambassadors
2. Transfer Opportunities/HBCU Articulation Agreements
3. Student Support Programs/Umoja
4. Event Planning
5. Empowerment of LACCD faculty to promote student success

Each area is listed below with goals, objectives and needs included for 2008-09:

Community Ambassadors

To improve the way we reach out as a district to the African American community in Los Angeles over the coming year, this committee will work on identifying and recruiting interested faculty, staff and administrators with affiliations to civic, cultural, church or neighborhood clubs/organizations. These community ambassadors will be encouraged to hold informational meetings/presentations for their organization. These individuals may also be asked to participate in district sponsored events as representatives (i.e. Black College Expo, HBCU tours, etc).

Goal: To create a network of district volunteers.

Objectives:

1. Identify volunteers across the district – students, classified, faculty and administrators.
2. Identify a contact person at each college to help coordinate efforts.

3. Improve networks between LACCD and outside organizations.

4. Create comprehensive list of events and organizations.

Action Steps

1. Create sub-committee.

2. Update marketing materials.

3. Create website and list contacts.

4. Send email to prior participants and include LACCD Academic Senate Presidents.

5. Create comprehensive list of organizations.

6. Provide training session for community ambassadors.

7. Attend DAS.

Needs (i.e. physical, fiscal, personnel, etc):

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HBCU Articulation Agreements

To aid in outreach to African American students and to promote their transfer success, this committee will establish articulation agreements between LACCD and various HBCU's. In addition, this committee will explore ways to promote the articulation agreements to the colleges, current and prospective students (.i.e. HBCU brochure, college tours, etc.).

Goal: Complete 10 existing articulation agreements and identify next group of articulation agreements to work on.

Objectives: Target 5 specific groups.

1. Students – increase overall awareness; exchange programs; financial aid; HBCU trips; scholarship opportunities (blackcollegedollars.org); events such Black College Expo.

2. Counselors – Increase awareness; increase knowledge of articulation agreements; coordinate HBCU trip for transfer center directors/articulation

officers.

3. Faculty – assist in negotiating articulation agreements
4. Articulation officers - continue working with this group to streamline process of creating articulation agreements. (8 hours/articulation agreement is needed).
5. HS students – increase awareness; concurrent enrollment.

Action Steps:

1. Create sub-committee.
2. Create website and list articulation agreements, brochures, etc.
3. Presentation to counselors, transfer center directors, articulation officers.
4. Identify LACCD staff members who are graduates of HBCU's (potential mentors).
5. Identify next 10 colleges/universities for articulation agreements.
6. Use LACCD website and Academically Speaking publication.
7. Create Guide Sheets that can be distributed to interested students.

Needs (i.e. physical, fiscal, personnel, etc):

- Update HBCU brochure
- Fundraising/Resource Development

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Student Support Programs

To aid in outreach to African American students and to promote their academic achievement, retention, persistence, and transfer success, it is proposed that LACCD colleges institute permanent African American Student Support Programs. While the programs would emphasize themes and courses related to African American history, culture, and community, they would be open to any interested student regardless of background. This committee will examine existing programs/models and assist colleges with establishing programs on their respective campus.

Goal: Expand and strengthen student support programs across the district to increase the student success and achievement of African American males.

Objectives:

1. Increase awareness of support programs.
2. Identify best practices – academic, leadership, community service.
3. Collaborate with community based organizations.
4. Widen the circle within the district of individuals who support the African American Outreach Initiative and African American students.

Action Steps:

1. Create sub-committee.
2. Disseminate 1 page write-up w/ budget for colleges interested in starting an Umoja program.
3. Gather data of retention and success rates by college for African American students (send data from LACCD District Researcher)
4. Sponsor A2mend (financially at \$2500 and presentation).
5. Continue working with interested colleges to implement additional programs.
6. Continue working with statewide Umoja consortium.

Needs (i.e. physical, fiscal, personnel, etc):

- Identify faculty who are supportive of African American students and add to website.
- ID additional funding – ASO, Staff Development, Basic Skills, outside grant funding.

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Event Planning

This committee will assist with planning various events to engage district staff, students

and/ or community related to the initiative. This committee will also work closely with the community ambassadors committee to staff local events connected to the initiative.

Goal: Identify key events for AAOI participation in the greater Los Angeles Area.

Objectives

1. Identify 3 - 4 events we should attend (i.e. ~~Angel City Classic~~, Black College Expo, HBCU tours, WRCBAA, etc) and secure staffing and funding for these events.
2. Coordinate with community ambassador group for staffing and presentations.
3. Discuss need and feasibility of holding a district wide event. (e.g. LACCD Black History Month Event; LACCD African American Graduation; WRCBAA Conference)

Action Steps

1. Create sub-committee.
2. Create a calendar of events (college and district level) for posting of internal and external events.
3. Begin planning for district-wide event for Spring 2011/Fall 2011
4. Recruit community ambassadors to participate in events.

Needs (i.e. physical, fiscal, personnel, etc