



ANTELOPE VALLEY COLLEGE

Notes from the Researchers *- Volume 1 – July 2009*

Recent Projects from the Office of Institutional Research and Planning

Research for: Institutional Research and Planning
Research Lead: Aaron Voelcker

With the California state budget in its current condition and cuts to the California Community Colleges looming, one possible remedy was to severely cut funding for or completely eliminate the Cal Grant program. The Office of Institutional Research and Planning collected demographic data for all students enrolled at census between summer 2008 and spring 2009 in an effort to anticipate which students would be most affected by Cal Grant funding reductions. The demographics that we looked at were student ethnicity, student gender, disabled students, degree or certificate seekers and Palmdale students.

When the Cal Grant recipients were isolated it was clear which demographic groups were affected more because there was an increase in percentage (highlighted in red) from the total population percentage. Though some ethnicities were more affected than others (black non-Hispanic and to a lesser extent Hispanic students) the total impact of losing Cal Grant funding was much more apparent in other demographic groups. Degree or certificate seeking students showed a staggering 16.9% increase over the total population percentage. The biggest increase among demographic groups measured was with female students having a 17.8% increase over the total population percentage.

Degree or Certificate Seeking	No Cal Grant	Cal Grant Recipient	Total Population
No	34.7%	17.0%	34.0%
Yes	65.3%	83.0%	66.0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Gender	No Cal Grant	Cal Grant Recipient	Total Population
Female	58.2%	76.8%	58.9%
Male	40.6%	22.4%	39.9%
Unreported	1.2%	0.9%	1.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

This data tells us that if there are significant cuts in Cal Grant funding Antelope Valley College may see a drop in enrollment for female and degree or certificate seeking students as well as a drop in goal attainment for degree or certificate seeking students.



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Research for: Early Alert
Research Lead: Aeron Zentner

The research office collaborates with many programs to critique methods, locate issues by providing statistical information so that data driven decisions can be made. One of the methods we use to gather data is through surveying.

In this project the population surveyed was the AVC student body. Student responses were then compared by location to show the awareness of the Early Alert program in the area. The locations surveyed were online, Lancaster and Palmdale.

The chart below shows the results of student attitudes. By looking at the data we can see that there is a need for an early intervention for failing students.

If you were notified by the sixth week of the semester that you were in danger of failing a course, which activity would you be most likely to do first:	Online	Lancaster	Palmdale
Drop the class	10.2%	9.7%	10.5%
Talk to my instructor	64.8%	62.2%	64.0%
Talk to my counselor	4.0%	6.6%	9.6%
Talk to a peer mentor (another student) who is trained to help in confidence	0.5%	2.0%	0.9%
Get a free trained tutor in the Learning Center	13.2%	15.3%	11.4%
See a faculty learning specialist in the Learning Center to find out how I can improve my studying.	4.8%	3.1%	1.8%
Enroll in a study skills course or take study skills workshops	2.4%	1.0%	1.8%

The overall student awareness of the intervention program (Early Alert) was 9.3% with the lowest awareness among online students (8.1%) and highest at Palmdale (13.3%).

Were you aware that AVC has an early alert program to help students that might be in danger of failing?	Online	Lancaster	Palmdale	Faculty
Yes	8.1%	9.5%	13.3%	80.3%
No	91.9%	90.5%	86.7%	19.7%
Total	382	200	113	66