Limited-duration Grant-funded Special Assignments

Form Submitted by: Victor Tam, Tammy Sakanashi Date: 7/31/24

Department/Office: STEM AVANZANDO Grant Duration: From 8/16/24 To 5/23/25

Project Title AVANZANDO Learning Community Faculty Support

Project Description (Add pages, if needed)

Santa Rosa Junior College STEM and Health Sciences programs have been awarded a Department of Education, HSI Educational Grant (AVANZANDO Initiative) to address the challenges faced by Hispanic, low-income, and first-generation students while strengthening the infrastructure of the College to serve future generations of students. The AVANZANDO initiative addresses the institutional challenges which are creating roadblocks to success for SRJC's Hispanic, low-income, and first-generation students in STEM pathways.

To achieve the overarching goal of increasing STEM degree attainment for Hispanic, low-income, and first-generation SRJC students, the initiative has developed a STEM Learning Community with linked courses so that students are in all the same learning community courses together. The program allows for students to enroll in a 1 year program that provides additional support while enrolled in English and Math. These students would be completing transfer-level math and English in the first year of college. For Fall 2024, student will enroll in Math 25, English 1A, and Counseling 60; for the Spring 2025 semester they will continue with Math 58 and English 5. In addition to these linked courses student will have access to a designated STEM Counselor (the instructor of Counseling 60), local college field trips, and cultural event. Faculty in the learning community will work with students to promote a sense of belonging by encouraging students to attend AVENZANDO activities. Faculty will have the opportunity to participate in AVANZANDO trips and activities with their student, if desired.

Compensation Structure (Add pages, if needed)

Our request is for 5% release time per semester for each faculty member teaching in the learning community to be paid by the AVANZANDO initiative.

Selection Process (Add pages, if needed)

An email was sent out to faculty in all 3 disciplines - English, Math and Counseling. A letter of interest was requested and from those applications one faculty member for each discipline was selected by the AVANZANDO manager and staff.

Received by AFA: 7/31/24 approved