Cape Cod Community College (CCCC) received $18,900 to fund the McNair Disadvantaged Student Program, referred to locally as the Student Academic Support Program. This was an increase of $5,900 over the FY 2004 award of $13,000, however, it makes up less than half the reduction from FY 2003 to FY 2004 of $12,000 (FY 2003 award was $25,000). Agustin Dorado, Associate Dean of Learning Support Services, is the administrator responsible for implementing this program. Two faculty members received modified workloads to assist with the programs in the Math Lab and Writing Resource Center.

Program Narrative

The Student Academic Support program provides a comprehensive array of academic support services intended to increase the post-secondary retention of disadvantaged students at Cape Cod Community College. Due to funding reductions in 2004, the target group was cut from 500 to approximately 250 students for FY 2005 and was not greatly increased for FY 2006. Services include orientation, tutoring, skills workshops, and advising. McNair funds are used primarily to provide tutoring personnel and other academic support services.

Achievements

The Student Academic Support program has provided funding for professional tutoring services in the Tutoring Center and the Writing/Resource Center; for professional and peer tutoring services in the Math Lab. In FY 2006, 696 students received these services in the Tutoring Center; 556 received services in the Math Lab; and 522 received services in the Writing Center. Additionally, “On the Road” study skills workshops on test taking/anxiety, time management, note taking, writing research papers, learning styles, and memory techniques were brought into classrooms during FY 2006. In Fall 2005 eight faculty, and in Spring 2006 eleven faculty, hosted workshops in 36 classes.

In the summer of 2006, the Tutoring Center and the Writing Resource Center were relocated into beautiful, side-by-side spaces in the first new building on the CCCC campus in 40 years, the Lyndon P. Lorusso Technology Center. Also new beginning Fall 2006, CCCC will be participating in a pilot e-tutoring program in the State of Massachusetts. Agustin Dorado and one of our tutors are participating, making on-line tutoring available to CCCC students 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
Program Outcomes

1. A total of 300 attended the College Open House in April, 2006. During Open House, 130 students met with representatives of the Academic Support Program and of these, 74 have now been accepted to attend in Fall 2006. (Source: Lisa Fedy, CCCC Admissions)

2. There were no official records of attendance at this past year’s two New Student Orientation programs. Close to 500 students attended the Fall 2005 New Student Orientation program and met with faculty advisors from their major. (There were materials for 500 with very few remaining after the event.) Approximately 225 students in the Spring 2006 took advantage of New Student Orientation programs and met with faculty advisors. (Again, there were materials for 300 and not all were used.) (Source: Lori Crawley, CCCC Student Development.)

3. 30 College Bound students were informed about the availability of support services. Also, students from the Adult Learning Centers were informed about higher education opportunities.

4. In Spring 2005, 87% of students utilizing Learning Support Services in the Tutoring Center successfully completed the course in which they were receiving support. 70% of students registered in Fall 2005 that utilized the Tutoring Center returned in Spring 2005, compared to the College retention rate of 60% for this time period.

5. 85% of students utilizing Learning Support Services in the Tutoring Center maintained good academic standing for the term in which they received help and 89% maintained good academic standing for their CCCC career course work.

6. 100% of students with disabilities were given the opportunity to receive support services.

7. 944 students pre-registered for their Spring 2006 classes (comparable pre-registration data for Spring 2005 was 930 students; for spring 2004 was 940 students).

8. 396 students pre-registered for their Fall 2006 classes (data as of 4/19/06; comparable data from same date in 2005 was 579, in 2004 was 271).

9. 696 students received tutoring center services in 2006 compared to 717 in 2005; there were 655 in 2004, and 561 in 2003.

10. In the 2005-2006 academic year, there were 2461 completed appointments in the Tutoring Center. This does not include the 200-plus summer session tutoring appointments. These numbers are from our new (Spring 2005) on-line tutoring appointment program and are not available for previous years.

Over all, the Learning Support Services program has been effective in helping students succeed in College. This year saw an increase in funds from the previous two years of cuts and the College was able to provide additional tutoring hours for its students. The McNair funds are essential for the College to be able to provide these kinds of support services for students and the increase in funds this past year made a positive difference in the services offered.