

The AANAPISI Program (2008-2011)

South Seattle Community College (South) was designated by the U.S. Department of Education as one of the first Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions (AANAPISI) in October 2008. South received a two-year, \$2.4 million federal funding to support student retention and success, with special focus on Asian American and Pacific Islander students.



Below is a brief list of projects the AANAPISI Program worked on and how they have been integrated into the college.

AANAPISI Strategies:

Increasing Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) English Language Learners (ELL) transitions to college level courses and programs:

- **Transition Portfolio:** A collection of activities designed to assist students as well as potential students in mapping their educational goals and in navigating their personal pathway to college success. All of the activities can be found online at: <http://transitionportfolio.southseattle.edu/>
- **Transition Workshops:** Expanded program offerings, including workshops in goal setting and writing a strong personal statement. Transition workshops are continued through the Basic and Transitional Studies Division. The Basic and Transitional Studies Division website: <http://sites.southseattle.edu/bts/>



Strengthening AAPI first year experiences:

- **Family Actions for College Success (FACS):** Orientation for families to provide early intervention to improve students' first year experience. Orientation will continue through the Title III, Part A Grant.
- **Financial Aid Education:** "How to" educational materials and presentations for students, families, and the public to enable more self-sufficiency in obtaining financial assistance for college. The materials are available on the Financial Aid website at: <http://www.southseattle.edu/finaid/>
- **Clustered Learning Communities (CLCs):** CLCs are a cohort model which links two courses (developmental English and a college success course) with peer navigator (student) support. The CLC is coordinated through the English Department.



- **Pre-Advising Website:** Online orientation to student support resources and education planning. The website can be found at: <http://www.southseattle.edu/pre-advising/>

Improving AAPI retention, intervention strategies, and outreach:

- **Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Study Group:** An ethnically diverse learning community that fosters pride in cultural diversity while promoting academic success and transfer in a supportive environment focused on the whole students' college experience. The study group is facilitated by an AAPI coordinator and staffed with culturally sensitive tutors.
- **Service Learning:** these projects engage students and tie their learning experience to the community. With grant support, service learning will become an integral part of South's curriculum. Service learning is coordinated through the campus Workforce Center.



- **Making Achievement Possible (MAP) College Success Videos Series:**

The AANAPISI program worked with SCCTV to provide a series of videos promoting degree attainment and college success. The series covers a wide variety of topics from financial aid to classroom and personal success and include curriculum. The videos can be found at: <http://aapiherc.southseattle.edu/>



- **VOICES and Lunch & Learn.**

VOICES (Vision, Opportunity, Inclusion, Collaboration, Equity and Social Justice), is a campus-wide learning community and has the mission to provide lifelong learning opportunities that promote and embrace multiculturalism, equity and social justice for the campus community. One of the initiatives is the *Lunch and Learn* reading/discussion series for faculty and staff. *VOICES* and the Lunch and Learn Series are overseen by the Office of Diversity and Retention.

- **Talk Story: Mobilizing Pacific Islanders in Higher Education:**

Forum in which members of the community meet to discuss the need for Pacific Islanders to attend college. Talk Story is jointly coordinated at South through the Office of Diversity and Retention, and Student Outreach, Admissions, and Recruitment Office.



- **Asian American Pacific Islander Higher Education Resource Center (AAPIHERC):** The Asian American & Pacific Islander Higher Education Resource Center (AAPIHERC) is an online clearinghouse and community for Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) higher education professionals and higher education professionals who serve AAPI student populations. The website houses resources such as best practices, research, media, and the college success videos. The website can be found at: <http://aapiherc.southseattle.edu/>

Developing AAPI transfer pathways to four year colleges and universities:

- **Associate of Arts degree with an API Studies emphasis:** This transfer program reflects AAPI culture, history and language and connects students to four-year institutions in disciplines such as ethnic studies, international business, hospitality management, education, etc. More information is available on South's website at: <http://www.southseattle.edu/programs/academicprograms.htm>
- **Associate of Elementary Education (AEE):** A teacher-prep associate degree that forms a ladder to a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education (K-8) to increase underrepresented role models in education. More information can be found at South's website at: <http://www.southseattle.edu/programs/academicprograms.htm>



Picture: The White House Initiative for Asian American and Pacific Islanders visit South Seattle Community College, May 2011

In October 2011, South received additional AANAPISI funding. This project focuses on providing a safety net of services, including educational planning; and creating a culturally responsive learning environment here at South, including an AAPI Success Center and culturally relevant course content. Watch for more information!

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