ALAS Regional Transfer Success Summit Proposal

Presenters: Sumita Lall VC (English, coordinator role), Kamelia Algiers VC (Biology), Lauri Moore, VC (Sociology), Cynthia McDermott, VC Faculty Academy trainer (Antioch University, Los Angeles)

Title: How Participation in Faculty Academy Changed our Teaching: What We've Learned About Equity-Minded Practices in the Classroom as a Way to Increase Transfer

◉ GIFTS - Great Ideas for Teaching/Transfer Success (15 minute roundtable discussion repeated 4 times).

◯ Community of Practice (30 minute or 60 minute session).

Faculty Academy has helped teachers at Ventura College interrogate their classroom teaching, review research and best practices like effective questioning techniques and learner-centered assessment models, and practice and share teaching strategies in a learning community across disciplines, all in an effort to increase access to the curriculum for all students at VC. The participants in this roundtable discussion will share techniques and practices they've added to their collective toolbox as a result of their participation in Faculty Academy at VC, and they will also report on their renewed commitment to equity in addressing student course completion toward transfer.

More In-depth description: Each participant will share an effective classroom practice or technique she has learned as a VC Faculty Academy fellow, practices ranging from needs-based learning exercises like creating "open space forums" to helping students engage in curriculum using "inquiry-based learning" and "constructed controversies." Faculty Academy has helped teachers at VC target student access to the curriculum and, thus, retention of students from diverse backgrounds and underrepresented or marginalized groups, ultimately helping more teachers become conscious of the way a classroom's unspoken expectations and culture can erect seemingly insurmountable barriers to success.

Technology: We'll electronically provide our handouts (samples of exercises that target student retention based on what we've learned in Faculty Academy), but we'll need to project these exercises using the computer screen as we share with attendees.