HotShots Coordinator, Stephanie Yee, presented for committee approval the Institutional Plan to Achieve Sustainable Continuous Quality Improvement (SCQI) in Student Learning Outcomes. The actions and evidence of this plan were developed by HotShots, a shared governance committee. At Citrus College, the outcomes and assessment process is continuous and evolving and, as such, the college is currently at proficiency, the highest level for student learning outcomes. The plan is a recommendation to move the college forward to SCQI with 26 action items to be completed during the 2013-2014 academic school year.

Linda Welz, Chief Information Services Officer, provided an overview of the article, “Pathways to Success: Guidelines to Boosting Student Success.” Written by Terry O’Banion, the article champions the creation of a systematic, integrated, and connected pathway to student success to meet the challenge of doubling the number of students who, in the next two decades, earn a certificate or an associate degree, or who transfer to a four-year college or university. He acknowledges that such a large cultural change, although difficult, must be embraced in order to succeed. O’Banion advocates instilling a “best process” approach that incorporates an overarching completion goal, with all faculty, staff, and administrators working on the redesign. The author offers guidelines that he states must exist before community colleges can create pathways to student success: establish a core leadership team representing all stakeholders; develop capacity to collect, organize, and interpret data and make evidence-based decisions; create programs of study with “instructional program coherence”; administer staff development to prepare all employees to support completion pathways; use technology to optimize the efficiency and effectiveness of pathways; establish guidelines for the “scaling up” of successful programs and practices; realign current resources and identify new ones to support student success; and keep stakeholders informed and engaged through transparent and user-friendly communications systems.

O’Banion warns that although guidelines provide direction and ideas, they are not a substitute for “courageous leadership, innovative structures, evidence-based ideas, and the willingness to set aside differences in order to place the needs of the students first.”

The committee also reviewed changes made to Administrative Procedure 3530 Weapons on Campus, presented by Dr. Arvid Spor. This modified AP as well as the most current versions of the District’s Administrative Procedures and Board Policies can always be found on the Citrus website.

The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 25, 2013, at 2:45 p.m. in CI-159.

The minutes of Steering Committee meetings may be viewed at: http://www.citruscollege.edu/admin/president/steering/Pages/default.aspx