Appendix IV: Brief Institutional History and Key Institutional Data

Bakersfield College (BC) is a Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accredited public community college committed to offering excellence in transfer, vocational, and continuing education. Founded in 1913, BC is the oldest continuing two-year college in California. The college serves approximately 25,000 students on its 153-acre main campus in northeast Bakersfield, as well as at the Weill Institute in downtown Bakersfield and the Delano campus, located 35 miles north of Bakersfield. BC provides opportunities for students from diverse economic, cultural, and educational backgrounds to attain Associate and Baccalaureate degrees and certificates, workplace skills, and preparation for transfer. BC was recently approved as one of 16 California community colleges to offer a Bachelor’s degree in Career and Technical Education (CTE). BC is federally designated a Hispanic-serving institution with 76.1% of students identifying as students of color. Approximately 80% of students are First Generation and 70% rely on some form of Financial Aid. Over 80% of BC students enter unprepared and require pre-collegiate course work to ensure readiness for college-level coursework. BC maintains a 75%-25% ratio of full-time to part-time faculty and consists of 47 academic departments. The History department is expanding Dual Enrollment faculty in area high schools and currently has 12 full-time faculty members, in addition to 6-8 adjunct faculty members per semester. The English department has 28 full-time faculty and 16 adjunct instructors. Both the English and History departments have full time faculty working at our Delano campus and other rural sites which serve majority Hispanic populations that are closely associated with the agricultural industry. The Performing Arts department has 9 full-time faculty members and 27 adjunct faculty members.