# Mt. SAC FCS Program Advisory Committee Vote on Proposed Curriculum

# June 29, 2023

***Background:***

* Mt. SAC FCS Consumer Affairs Curriculum was initially proposed, discussed, and approved in February 2021 at our Advisory Committee Meeting.
* A new vote was requested via email because our advisory committee minutes showing FCS Advisor Approval is over a year old.

***The proposed curriculum:***

* ***Create new FCS Certificate: Consumer Affairs—Accredited Financial Counselor.***
	+ Courses to include:
		- FCS 41/Life Management (3 units)
		- FCS 51/Consumerism (3)
		- FCS 61/Housing in Global Perspectives (3) (new)
		- FCS 70/Financial Counseling (3) (new)
		- FCS 80/Personal Financial Planning (3) (or BUSA 71)
		- FCS 91/Work Experience (3)
		- *Total 18 units*
	+ This proposed program would provide students a path to employment as an Accredited Financial Counselor® (AFC®) with or without earning a 4-year degree, or even a 2-year degree.
	+ Students who successfully complete the above coursework will be prepared to sit for the AFC® (Accredited Financial Counselor) exam to become an AFC®. They will also need to complete 1000 hours of related work, part of which will be completed in the FCS 91/Work Experience course
		- AFCPE® data shows that students who take coursework and then sit for the exam are more likely to pass on their first attempt than those currently working and preparing for the exam without a structured support program.
	+ Once approved, Mt. SAC would be the only CCC with an Accredited Financial Counselor program.
	+ Additional Information from AFCPE® about an AFC®: <https://www.afcpe.org/certification/>
		- *The gold standard: Comprehensive life-cycle financial education, providing the knowledge and skills to assist clients in complex financial decision-making*
		- *An Accredited Financial Counselor® (AFC®) can:*
			* *Address your immediate money challenges*
			* *Create a plan to achieve your unique goals and dreams*
			* *Build a sustainable foundation for long-term financial well-being*
		- *When you work with an AFC® professional you receive financial education and guidance specific to your unique situation and needs. An AFC® will never sell you product.*
* ***Create new FCS associate degree: Consumer Affairs:***
	+ Courses to include:
		- All courses listed under the certificate above (18 units)
		- PSYCH 1A or 1A Honors: Introduction to Psychology *OR* SOC 1 or SOC 1H Introduction to Sociology (3 units)
		- BUSC 1A or BUSC 1AH Principles of Economics—Macroeconomics
		- along with GE Courses (3 units)
		- Total of 60 units
	+ Goals for the AS degree:
		- Provide students with a path to transfer to a CSU with a Consumer Affairs program, such as CSULB or CSUN to earn a Consumer Affairs bachelor’s degree
		- Students completing the AS degree may also choose to earn their AFC® certification from AFCPE®

**Once Curriculum is Approved:**

**Establish the Mt. SAC FCS Program as an AFCPE® Registered Education Program:**

* Mt. SAC FCS faculty will work with AFCPE® to establish the Mt. SAC FCS program as an AFC® Registered Education Program to further prepare students for the AFCPE® Accredited Financial Counselor Certification Exam and employment as Certified Financial Counselors
* List of AFCPE® Registered Education Programs for reference: <https://www.afcpe.org/certification/become-a-registered-education-program/>
	+ Only California Institution: California State University, Northridge
	+ Only community college in the U.S.: Metropolitan Community College (as fully online program)

***FCS Advisory Committee Approval (bold) via email the week of June 26, 2023.***

***Nonbold = no response.***

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| Jared Burton, Mt. SAC Librarian | **Dr. Peter Kreysa, CSULB** |
| Dr. Tom Cai, CSUN  | Marlina Lopez, Former Mt. SAC Student |
| **Monika Chavez, Mt. SAC Librarian** | **Dr. Yoko Mimura, CSUN** |
| **Dr. Torria Davis, RCCD** | Stacey Reiseck, Mt. SAC FCS Faculty |
| **Sheila Dufresne** | Dolores Robles, CSULB |
| **Dr. Zoe Engstrom, CSULB** | **Elmer Rodriguez, Mt. SAC Counselor** |
| **Miguel Fernandez, LAHSA** | **Ann Stahl, Federal Trade Commission, Retired** |
| Dawn Finley, Mt. SAC Career Specialist *(vacation)* | Tracy Taylor, Rowland High School *(vacation)* |
| **Enrique Gonzalez, LA PTAC** | **Antonia Villasenor, DFPI** |
| **Pastor Herrera, Consumer Advocate** |  |

12 advisory members responded with approval. No response from 9. Two are on vacation.