Ms. Quaas-Berryman called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m., and asked each member to introduce themselves and their constituent group. Ms. Maggie Cordero and Mr. Matt Paige have resigned from the committee and will be replaced by Ms. Renee DeLong Chomiak and Dr. Geri Codd.

1. Establishing the working climate

Ms. Quaas-Berryman discussed the concept of “thinking grey.” She stressed the importance of making careful decisions and not being hurried into making decisions right away. The committee does not have to think in terms of what is “black and white.”

2. Committee Goals

Dr. Connal noted that the ultimate destination of the committee is to have a working plan to submit to the Board of Trustees. We need to submit our plan to the state for our funding allocation for basic skills by May 1, 2008. We will use this semester to “thing grey” and study the report. The committee needs to have a complete picture of the literature review before we put together a plan.

Dr. Connal distributed a timeline with which the committee will work within. She would like to review the projects that are currently being funded thru basic skills to see how they are progressing.

3. Group Discussion: Poppy Parts 1 A and B

A. 1 The committee discussed part 1 and part 2 of the report to determine “who do we serve, ad who is going to benefit from our actions?” Dr. Reece commented that the district is currently working on an agenda for student
success with the Board of Trustees. He noted that the ARCC data presented by Mr. Farmer to the Board generated a good deal of discussion. The board is looking to this committee to come up with a plan to raise our student numbers. Our Strategic Plan is more like a business process and systems document. The Strategic Plan does not look at student success. Dr. Reece commented that the Board intends to make basic skills a priority once we have completed our accreditation process in March 2008. Dr. Reece feels that student success is an institutional priority. Dr. Reece would like to see this as the main focus at all college committees, departments, divisions, deans, Board, etc. Student success should capture the energy of the entire campus.

A.2 The clearer we are about what we want to achieve will help us real our goals. Mr. Bettino commented about an e-portfolio seminar he attended recently and how it articulates the mission based on developmental education.

A.3 The developmental education program is not currently centralized or highly coordinated at Cerritos College. Dr. Codd suggested that Cerritos needs culturally responsibly teaching that is centralized.

A.4 Institutional policies do not facilitate student completion of necessary developmental coursework as early as possible in the educational sequence. It was suggested that Cerritos advocate for mandatory assessment and placement. Mr. Bettino feels that this can be done with more support from the faculty. Mr. Farmer commented that it is a delicate balance to try and mandate assessment before allowing students to take their core course work. We take the chance of losing many students to other institutions. Dr. Follett fears that what we do here will be for naught because we are already experiencing lower enrollments.

Mr. Soto would like to study whether we have enough resources to add the number of courses we need to address the needs of assessment.

4. Items from the floor

The committee will meet again at 2 PM in LC-135, on Tuesday, October 16, 2007.

Dr. Connal adjourned the meeting at 3:43 PM.