

2/5/24: Counseling Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Moy, Allen, Towle, Beal, Ross, Ilarde, Alturk, Scurry, Perez, Salceda, Margolis, Burns

Two New Part Time Counselors:

New part time counselors introduced themselves- Emily Burns and Emil Margolis. Emily works on Thursdays and Emil works Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

Check in Game:

A check in game was played.

Counseling Updates:

- UCSD Presentation at Merritt with all 4 Peralta Schools. Feb 15th 9am-noon.
- Radscl program is on pause until Spring 2026. See Sara's email for other program options.
- Nursing Updates- Nursing will have a class for Fall 2024. See email for update. Waiting for an additional update about online labs. Brochure is on the website. Math 203 no longer accepted. Engl 1B only not Engl 5.
- Phone appointment feedback:

-Keep phone appt option bc conexEd can take 5 minutes to load video and audio. Phone appts are used to ensure we can speak with students and send a zoom link if necessary.

-Will have students make a follow up appt if phone appt isn't appropriate.

-Technical issues make telephone calls necessary.

-Disclaimer about what a telephone appt is for and not for and expectations. Include in an email we can refer back to to remind the student what telephone appts are for.

Program & Committee Updates:

CE:

-Tanya, Marlo, Mari work Monday - Thursday 10am-12:30pm. Virtual and in person.

-Students are asked to complete a questionnaire which Tanya monitors.

-Prioritize students already in CE with 9 units completed in their CE program. But will serve all students.

-Focus is building strong relationships with faculty and students and providing support within the program.

-General counseling supports **prospective** CE students.

-MEDAS 101A: issue with students being told to not take this class for admin medas, however the class is listed on the certificate. If students are told this, have students email you and forward to Dean Khoo.

Academic Senate:

- Looking at changing unit requirements from 18 to 21 (confirm number with Steve) for GE's. Will be working with arctic officer.
- Want classes to be 50% online and 50% in person. Need to justify if online offering is less than 50%.
- Scholarships will be available soon through the academic senate. Encourage students to apply. Did not get enough applicants last year.

CARE team and Basic needs:

- Can refer students to the CARE team.
- Also refer to basic needs. Lots of resources including gas cards.

EOPS:

Still accepting applications. Feel free to refer students. Book voucher is \$500 this semester. SAS students can have fewer than twelve units.

SAS:

Used to be able to advocate for any class to be repeated more than three times. Now, only Learning Resource classes can be approved. Frances will follow up with admissions.

ESOL:

If any students want to learn English, refer them to Edwin. There are some late start classes (March).

Career:

Check your email/the career center website for internship opportunities. The website has been updated.

Requested Guest Speakers:

MEDAS

Child development - concerns about class scheduling (primarily morning, online, in English)

Admissions and Records

Fire science

EMT

Real Estate

ADJUS

Janine Nkosi regarding SBS degree

Cybersecurity

Land hort - One degree is incorrect and says complete level B but still in catalog. Sandi will deny petition bc it is not state approval. Tanya will let us know which one. VPI knows about this.

Peak Feedback:

Super Friday peak reg was very busy. Saw 80 students. Super Saturday was very slow. Weather may have been an issue.

Second week online drop in takes a dip.

Prep was valuable to get things done for our programs, prep for appts, catch up on emails, etc.

For follow up: Do we need online drop in for the second week of peak reg? Four counselors so far agreed the second week is not needed. We saw many students who were not Merritt students. Also we got students who did not have drop in issues (i.e. financial aid appeals, dismissals, comprehensive seps).

Announcements:

Transfer acceptance list is on the counselor website. Please enter all students who are accepted into a university.