



MERRITT COLLEGE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT MEETING MINUTES

Date: 3/18/2019 Time: 1:30 pm Location: R 112A

Attendees: Moy, Ross, Khoo, Allen, Scurry, Zielke, de Vito, Perez, Ciddio

Allotted Time	Topic	Person(s) Responsible
1:30-1:40	<p>Fire Science degree</p> <p><i>Three new certificates and an AS degree are being approved soon at the State level: Chief Fire Officer, Fire Officer and Fire Technology Certificates and an AS in Fire Technology (see Pantell's email dated 2/18/19). White collar people with prior degrees are competing for these jobs with younger individuals who have no degrees so Dr. Simmons recommends that our students have minimum educational requirements of a two year degree. To become a firefighter, there is a written exam as well as oral boards that need to be passed so having a good mastery of soft skills will help. The fire academy Merritt offers mimics the mandatory fire academy that students are required to attend. Completion of our fire academy won't necessarily make them a viable candidate. Strong candidates will be hardworking, committed, have excellent soft skills and a formal education. Being an EMT is a hard requirement as well as completing an approved fire academy.</i></p> <p><i>Students typically take Fire Science 211 at Merritt and then leave. Going forward this will be a capstone course and, priority to enroll in this class will be tiered as follows: first priority to students who are taking the class for a two year degree. Second priority is for students who are earning a certificate. Third priority is for students who have completed 4 other fire science classes at Merritt. The fourth priority will be for students who have completed 3 classes or less at Merritt.</i></p>	<p>Dr. Demond Simmons EMT & Fire Science Program Director</p>
1:40-1:50	<p>Eliminating Computer Literacy Requirement</p> <p><i>All agree that the class is an important option for many</i></p>	<p>Scurry</p>

	<p><i>students but not the AA/AS degree requirement. More students than not are tech savvy now but not all. Some students need the class and actually ask for it. This tends to be characteristic of returning students, formerly incarcerated students and some students served through SAS and EOPS.</i></p> <p><i>A point was made that the area 4c should not be eliminated. A college success, personal growth and development or career life planning course could replace the computer literacy requirement.</i></p> <p><i>There is a concern that if the requirement is eliminated the class will fade away.</i></p> <p><i>Suggestion: offer the computer literacy class non credit so it's free and a student would not have to worry about the grade.</i></p>	
1:50-1:55	<p>Summer and Fall Class Schedule <i>Reviewed for 2019</i></p>	Scurry
1:55-2:00	<p>My Path Coordinator <i>Angela agreed to be the coordinator. She will make sure that shared governance is followed in forming the committee.</i></p>	Scurry
2:00-2:20	<p>DataMart <i>Datamart.ccco.edu is a website where a lot of information can be obtained such as retention/success rates, special population information, transfer information, etc.</i></p>	Ciddio
2:20-2:30	<p>Standing Items: 1. Reports from programs: Puente, Sankofa, FYE, Veterans, SAS, EOPS, Athletics, Transfer Center, Centro Latino, SEA, etc. <i>FYE: Students had a good time at Stanford. They learned a lot and some are interested in applying to transfer there. Eighty students attended the field trip.</i> <i>Transfer: AD-T verifications have been sent out by admissions. Students can obtain a form from Marisol if their verification was not processed.</i></p>	All

2:30-2:40	<p>Standing Items:</p> <p>2. Committee reports</p> <p><i>SEM: Report was completed and approved by the Senate. The VPI is taking it to the Classified Senate and College Council for approval. From there it goes to the district. The report is due in April.</i></p> <p><i>Senate: Seven full time positions and two part time positions are available. The nomination period is March 13-26th.</i></p>	All
2:40-2:50	<p>Standing Item:</p> <p>3. SLOAC report: <i>Coun 24 has 4 SLOs. Two have been assessed (study skills and SEP).</i></p> <p>4. Survey count = 62/100</p>	All
2:50	<p>Announcements</p> <p>-March 21st flex day meeting regarding AB705 etc. 1-3 @ District.</p> <p>-May 9th District Wide Counseling Meeting @ Laney</p>	Zielke