



Merritt College Counseling Department

Counselor Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2009

Meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. In attendance: McLean, Scurry, Zielke, Khoo, Allen, Pantell, Mendez, Ilarde, Ciddio, De Coursey, Coplan, Bettencourt. Guest: Leilt Seblega, UC Berkeley

1. **UC Berkeley Transfer Alliance Project** Seblega gave overview of program. Targets low-income and underrepresented students but open to all. Program provides academic advising and transfer preparation services that supplement, but do not replace, our counseling services. Will do up front advising, transcript evaluations, application assistance, and follow-up liaison w/ UC after application. Will also advise about transfer admission at any institution, UC or not. Has 80-90% admission rate for last 3 years. When referring, target those students who have: 1) completed at least 15 transferable units, 2) a 3.0 (or better) GPA and, 3) completed ENGL 1A w/ a B or better. Good idea to consult w/ Leilt before referring: 510-642-4616 or <leilt@berkeley.edu>
 2. **Career Counseling** Brainstormed ideas for district-wide committee on integrating career counseling into our work. In addition to those submitted by Gagnon, suggested having current, practical, LOCAL labor market information available when advising students in (or considering) one of the PCCD vocational programs.
 3. **Transfer Report** Ilarde reported on transfer program w/ Holy Names in their new B.A. in Child Development. 1st informational meeting this past Saturday (3/21/09) w/ 10 students. Next informational meeting 3/31/09 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. HNU requires 2.2 GPA, ENGL 1A & 5, and transfer math. Ilarde and Pantell will be meeting w/ Merritt and HNU reps in next weeks to finalize transfer agreement.
2. **New Business**
- Discussion about revised PT Counselor evaluation forms & procedures
 - Pantell & Scurry reported on revised Counseling Department web site. See them for suggestions.
 - Follow-up on Allied Health brochure. Still in progress. Ilarde will send draft to Pantell
 - Follow-up on Counseling Department brochure. Khoo & Martinez-Rodriguez finalizing draft (content completed & will be meeting w/ Public Information Officer to get add'l graphics)
 - Discussion about COUN online. Agreement to complete Distance Ed Addendum for 24 & 57 now and hold off on others until later. Pantell will complete DEA and bring to group before submitting to CIC
 - Ilarde announced Asian Pacific-American Heritage event 5/8/09
 - Ensuring Transfer Success conference 5/8/09; may be staff development funds available (\$300 limit per person per year); get form from Jane Fong & submit to committee (meets 1st & 3rd Mondays of month)
 - Scurry announced that ASMC scholarship deadline extended to tomorrow (3/24/09); requires 500-word essay & 2 letters of recommendation

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.