



Merritt College Counseling Department

Counselor Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2005

Meeting convened at 1:30 p.m.

In attendance: Zielke, Shriver, Wong, Pantell, Scurry, Allen, DeCoursey, Blackwell. Guests: Mark Greenside, PFT; Ann Elliott and Jon Drinnon, English.

- 1. Faculty Position on Student Learning Outcomes** Greenside briefed counselors about Faculty Senate position. Led discussion about status and options. Agreement to stay in touch as issue unfolds.
- 2. English Department Update** Elliott and Drinnon led discussion about proper placement (and advising) in different ENGL levels. To help w/ advising students who think they're ready for ENGL 1A, review following requirements of ENGL 1A: 1) 750-word essays; 2) paragraphs that flow and are cohesive for up to 2/3 page; 3) appropriate use of summary and paraphrasing; 4) well-developed analytical skills--can think logically in writing; 5) thesis-based essays, consisting of topic sentences that consistently support thesis; 5) ample support for opinions; 6) relatively error-free (subject/verb agreement, no sentence run-ons, fragments, etc.). Also reiterated importance of advising student to stay at appropriate level of achievement--not doing student any favors by not pointing out drawbacks to moving from 201A-B to 1A too soon: will likely struggle and get caught in limbo--already will have received grade for 201B and can't go back). Finally, report on learning community involving 201A-B sections of Elliott, Drinnon, & Alison Miller, all teaching the content consistently across 5 sections (scope, assignments, etc.). sections and content consistently. Using Text and Context as text. Will keep counselors informed of progress.

Author left at 2:35