



Merritt College Counseling Department

Counselor Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2009

Meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. In attendance: Pantell, Mendez, McLean, Ilarde, Zielke, Bettencourt, De Coursey, Allen; Bueno, Elliott (interns). Guest: Xochitl Ortiz, ADN Program.

I. ADN Program Ortiz presented on specifics about eligibility for admission to program. Key points:

- Paper screen ONLY for Group A, NOT Group B. Those who achieve 80% cut score on Chancellor's Model (NOTE: must be 80% exactly or higher--no rounding up of 79.9%) are automatically notified of acceptance into program and told about dates to take TEAS. TEAS is free for Merritt students but can use scores if taken elsewhere. Merritt considers ONLY the score from first TEAS attempt (and all attempts are noted on TEAS "transcript"). If students have taken TEAS elsewhere, must request scores be sent (costs \$20).
- Those who score below 67% on TEAS are still considered admitted to program but are referred for remediation (in one or more of TEAS areas: English, Math, Science). Once overall score on TEAS reaches 67%, then allowed into program.
- In determining admission eligibility, calculate 3 GPAs: 1) overall college courses (baccalaureate only, not graduate); 2) overall English (ALL English courses, even basic skills); 3) overall core Biology (and WILL allow subject credit [not unit credit] for upper division Biology courses).
- Advise students considering LVN that even though program allows repeats, they may hurt the student if s/he later decides to apply for LVN to RN, where repeats will count against you in Chancellor's Model.

2. Transfer Report Ilarde noted the following:

- Don't use CSU Mentor when checking admission status--call school directly
- Further clarification needed about what constitutes "local service area"
- UCs plan to increase fall admits; CSUs plan to lower Few classes available for students who assess into basic skills while they're building their English and Math proficiency
- Class times tend to overlap, making building a full-time schedule difficult
- Counselors have created a form to collect specific challenges students face when trying to build their schedules.

3. M.A.P. Report McLean reported on visit with nine students to Western Regional Council on African-American Affairs. Very moving and motivating experience for all. Also reported that program is starting a companion program for African-American females--refer interested students to R106F.

4. Centro Latino Report Zielke noted the following:

- Fruitvale Center going to structured, group services (Counseling, Financial Aid, Intake)
- Developing application and enrollment workshops (for PCCD) in languages other than English
- Working closely w/ several local high schools in outreach (Mandela, Castlemont, Skyline, Arise, Unity, and Life Academy). Also developing alliances with community based organizations.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.