Counselor Meeting February 7, 2011

Meeting convened at 1:30 p.m.

In attendance: McLean, Scurry, Ilarde, Allen, Zielke, Paniagua (intern). Guest: Robin Freeman, Environmental Studies faculty

<u>Certificate Programs in Environmental Management and Technology: Robin Freeman</u> Robin Freeman brought handouts introducing 3 new Certificate of Proficiency programs:

- Environmental Management Fundamentals
- Greening the Urban Environment
- Urban Agroecology

Each of these certificate programs is 17 units. All courses are considered introductory, thus there are no prerequisites. Students can begin with any of the courses. Many of the courses are offered at night and on weekends.

Some employers of students who complete the program include East Bay Regional Parks, Urban Farmers, city, county and state environmental departments, health departments, solar companies, outdoor recreation companies, landscape restoration companies, etc.

Entry level salaries are typically between \$20,000 and 25,000 annually.

The average age of students in the program is 35; half of the students in these programs already have a degree.

The program is committed to introducing these programs to the various communities in the bay area. Information is on the web at <u>www.ecomerritt.org</u>. Robin can be reached at <u>rfreeman@peralta.edu</u>

Orientation: Lesley Scurry

Counselors brainstormed various ideas about how to improve/revive orientation.

New Business

M. Zielke informed counselors that Martin Arevalo at La Clinica de la Raza will begin offering bilingual mental health services on campus. These services can be offered to undocumented students. Referrals should be made to Marty and she will contact Mr. Arevalo.

McLean informed counselors of a grant through Alameda County Mental Health. The grant is for approximately 15 to 20 students of color (preferably males) who are interested in the field of mental health. Mentors will be available, and possibly internships. Contact Carlos with names of students who are interested.

MAP is having a conference on Saturday March 5, 2011 from 9:00 until 12:00.

Ilarde informed counselors that CSU EB and SFSU would be on campus on Wednesday, February 9, 2011. SFSU is expected to make only 2 campus visits this semester.