



Merritt College Counseling Department

Counselor Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2005

Meeting convened at 1:40 p.m. In attendance: Zielke, Wong, Shriver, Blackwell, Allen, Scurry, DeCoursey, Pantell, Crutchfield, Cannady, White, Oliveira, MacEwan (intern). Guest: Ann Elliott and Jon Drinnon from English Department.

- 1. English Department Dialogue** Elliott and Drinnon addressed the following points:
 - When reviewing assessment scores, reading and writing carry equal weight when considering classes. If one or the other is low, not likely to be successful in ENGL 1A.
 - If scores borderline, not a good idea to suggest higher level course.
 - When in doubt, suggest more preparation for 1A (by recommending the 201A-B sequence).
 - When using multiple measures, focus on time commitment needed for success (i.e. 2:1 ratio of outside class to in-class hours). How long since last English class and grade/level of success may not be best criteria for success.
 - ENGL 252 A-B sequence recommended for students w/ very low reading and mid-level writing. ENGL Dept. considering whether to offer 252 as a combined course (similar to 201A-B).
 - All sections of 201A-B are combined courses, not just those for Puente students.
 - Area of confusion: if student does very well in 201A, instructor can either recommend they go into either 201B or 1A. Counselors don't know which course instructor recommending. Suggested having ENGL instructors complete half-sheet for students to bring to counseling appts. when planning next semester.
 - Drinnon very open to continuing dialogue. Contact at (510) 526-2784 (home) or (510) 499-6177 (cell) or at jdrrinnon@mindspring.com.
- 2. Catalog Revisions/Matric** Shriver reiterated that changes for upcoming catalog are to be submitted by 4/1/05 to Zielke (Puente), Blackwell (Transfer), Tissot (DSP&S), Scurry (Matriculation), Contreras (EOPS), Shriver (General), & Dean Powell (Veterans & CalWorks). Also discussed matric committee makeup and attendance.
- 3. Articulation Report** Pantell reviewed items noted in artic notes of this date.
- 4. Transfer Center Report** Blackwell announced Career, Health, & College Fair in the gym on 4/13/05 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Also announced Learning Outcomes meeting for counselors 4/5/05 in P-333 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Transfer student panel will be 4/20/05 in Student Lounge from 12 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.