

## **Matriculation Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 25, 2007

*Present:* Dr. Loewenstein, Dr. Dieckmeyer, Tricia Hodawanus, Sharon Drake, Daniela Greco, Daniel Vega, Leslie Chaks, Cynthia Acosta, Rita Perez, Mark Lewis, Anne Ybarra, Melissa Bader, Zina Chacon, Gabriela Gamiz, David Payan, Pam Kollar, Leona Crawford, Maria Maness.

*Absent:* Edward Alvarez, Eric Betancourt, Mark DeAsis, Jimmie Hill, Gabriela Avila.

**Next meeting:** Thursday, December 6, 2007

---

### **I. Introduction**

- Dr. Loewenstein welcomed everyone and acknowledged the importance of this committee and its collaboration of student services departments. Great job!

### **II. Matriculation Updates**

- Anyone interested in publishing a program or student achievement in the next Matrix Newsletter, may direct articles to Maria. Thanks to everyone who has submitted articles in a timely manner. Keep them coming!
- **Assessment** – Sharon Drake introduced new Accuplacer Platform. No changes for the student. There is a delay at the beginning as proctor selects from a variety of test to choose from and enters student information. Unfortunately, there have been a few odd placements such as Eng50/Eng1A as placement. Please direct students to Sharon for corrections. Leslie Chaks confirmed new platform to be working well with DSPS program and students.
- Assessment statistics for summer 07:
  - 1390 General assessment test
  - 18 Retest appeals
  - 17 Retest for Math 98
  - 18 Concurrent Admissions test
- **Career Transfer Job Placement Center** – Anne Ybarra commented that the department is accommodating not only Transfer students but also students exploring career/job assistance, use of internet to use Web Advisor and other internet resources making it a busy center. Recommended scheduling for Spring.
- Numbers for 2006-2007 are 4953. Numbers are lower from last academic year; due to staffing issues, Fall weekend fairs and Center information tables have not taken place yet and these events generated more than 300 students.
- The center recently hosted the First Fall Transfer Fair with 30 participating universities. Also in attendance to provide information to students were our own Norco Counseling Department, Financial Aid Staff, and RCC Teacher Preparation Program. Representatives were encouraged by the amount of

- student contacts they obtained during the fair. Center Guidance class assignment and faculty encouragement for students to participate may have contributed to the increase in numbers. The survey results indicated that there is a lack of shade but overall great successful fair. I will be providing Gabriela Gamiz from Title V a quote more EZ UPS. Thank you to everyone and to Cynthia Acosta and Rita Perez for hosting the hospitality area.
- Eureka Regional Training is scheduled for November 14; she reminded those interested to sign up and offered to register anyone wanting to attend. Thank you to Sharon Drake for allowing the use of the SSV 218.
  - University representatives and Job Placement staff now have a new private location to meet with students, across from the Assessment Center.
  - **Counseling Center** – Cynthia Acosta reported statistics for summer 07. 3,191 students were seen during Express counseling. Thanks to full time counselors for making themselves available. Cynthia suggested that there was a need for more adjunct counselors. Currently there are 57 Basic skills classrooms, 11 classrooms were visited.
  - **Melissa Bader – Preliminary Data and Observations** – During spring semester 2007, students were asked to identify the activities they were completing when they logged into the writing center. Students are required to complete 18 hours of lab time for each English class with activities being determined by individual instructors. However, up until this point, students were only tracked by the college and district by the Datatel log-in/log-out terminals. In spring semester for Norco's 64 classes Datatel logged a total of 19,399.81 hours. In addition to the Datatel system, Spring 2007 students were asked to log into the Accutrack system to track activities from a drop down menu of activities. Logging into the Accutrack system and identifying an activity was voluntary for students; although it was encouraged with regular reminders. 1173 students utilized the Accutrack system for a total of 7147 visits. Of those reporting, 67% of the students visited fewer than 10 times. 283 students visited the Writing Center over 10 times (24%). The average student visited 6 times. Students in the 10+ group averaged a success rate in their classes of 91.2% compared to the 60% success rate of all other students. This snapshot of students is equally distributed between the classes offered. Interestingly data shows that the students in both groups are identifying similar activities in Accutrack. Bring us to the conclusion that while it cannot be statistically validated that attendance in the Writing Center is correlative to student success, the behaviors of successful students seem to be significant to the data pertaining to attendance in the writing center. Due to the fact that students who are successful do not demonstrate any measurable difference in activity or category of activity, we are focusing further research to determine how student success can be influenced by attendance in *other ways* such as time on task, study habits, interaction with faculty and motivation. The writing center does provide positive reinforcement for these behaviors.

The writing center is continuing the study. In addition to the earlier questions regarding the relationship between attendance, success, and overall atmosphere, we are considering the question of how the center is affected by the new success track classes. Anecdotal observations and preliminary data of sign-ins indicate a more balanced distribution of sign-ins and an increase in

times between success track classes. In addition there appears to be an increase in peer group work meeting by prior arrangement.

#### Future Questions/Directions

Track the usage of the identified 10+ students as they progress from class to class

How are the success tracks affecting the writing center utilization?

New "peek" hours

Increase in 10+ students

How do students view the space?

Usage Survey

What is the utilization for the weekends and late nights?

- Everyone was invited to attend Monday's Student Success Meeting in ST107@1:00 p.m.

*Have a great weekend!*