Counseling

Program Strengths and Accomplishments
The Counseling program addresses a spectrum of student needs, providing expert orientation activities, student advisement and educational planning. Counselors work closely with the academic divisions to provide accurate, program specific direction to students.

The initial contact of students with the college occurs frequently with interactions with counselor. The implementation of processes and procedures to inform, focus and direct students in the development of their academic and career goals is critical to their success. Our Counseling program does this in an exemplary manner.

The move into the new Student Center has been achieved, with assessment of the effectiveness of our processes and procedures ongoing. The willingness of counselors and other division program personnel to work collaboratively and cooperatively, exploring and implementing creative ideas to meet student needs, has resulted in increased effectiveness in the delivery of counseling and other intake services.

As a direct result of dynamic program leadership and involvement, including managers, faculty and classified staff, the program is adaptive and responsive to student and college needs. During this difficult time of downsizing and doing with less, program leaders have come together to streamline processes, to access alternative methods for meeting student needs and to support college efforts to maintain focus upon our primary mission.

Other Issues Facing the Department
The Counseling program has lost a significant number of full time positions and is projected to lose even more this academic year. As our student population reaches all-time highs, we must address the need for adequate staffing. Failure to do so will result inevitably in a diminishment of our ability to provide adequate services to our students.

Goals/Action Plans for the Next Three Years
- Increase personnel in critical areas, including Counseling in SEM and the Transfer Center and classified support for then Transfer Center.
- Increase number of sections of counseling classes to address the increasing demand for academic and personal development options for our growing student population.
- Implement an electronic Student Education Plan (SEP).
- Complete SLO cycles for all Counseling courses.
- Mandate new student orientations.

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