

Mt. San Antonio College  
Disabled Student Programs & Services  
Advisory Board Meeting  
October 29, 2008, 1:15-3:00 p.m.

Facilitators: Grace Hanson and Julie Bradley

Attendees:

Mt. SAC Employees: Kristina Allende, Ardean Downs, Tim Engle, Jean Garrett, Heidi Lockhart, Carole Ludwig, Eloise Mejia, Carol Norton, Barbara Quinn and Jill Wilkerson

Outside Agencies: Gently Ang-Cal Poly Pomona, Janice Cecola-Rowland USD, Susan Lacoff-LACOE, Pauline Pina-Department of Rehabilitation, Andrew Rountree-Service Center for Independent Living, Michael Sampiano-RFB&D and Rob Young-RFB&D

Students: Monica Abelar and Dennis Toomey

**Agenda**

DSP&S Updates

Growth and Challenges in Alternate Media

Transition Plan/Self Evaluation

Direction from You (our Advisory Board)

Veterans

**Welcome and Introductions**

Grace Hanson, DSP&S Director, welcomed the group and asked each person to introduce themselves.

**DSP&S Updates**

Grace provided information regarding our department's efforts in promoting Disability Awareness Month and the events we have scheduled throughout the month. The American Sign Language Club was congratulated for their extraordinary effort and assistance with Disability Awareness Month.

Grace announced that the College is conducting a Transition Plan/Self Evaluation. The College has hired a consultant to survey the campus in physical accessibility, program accessibility and 508 compliance (technology is accessible to individuals with disabilities). The College is still in the process of having this done and we should be getting a draft report from the consultants.

Grace showed the Webisode (web commercial) that was filmed about our department and some of our services. Some of our faculty, staff and students were the actors.

Grace showed the PowerPoint presentation that was shown to our Board of Trustees at the October Board Meeting. This included information on the status of Mt. SAC's production of Alternate Media, Universal Design and Veterans.

(Over)

### **Direction from You**

Julie Bradley, DSP&S Counselor, explained that part of the charge of an advisory board is to provide feedback on how we are doing (good and bad) and to help us plan for the future. She facilitated a discussion with comments from the group.

Janice Cecola from Rowland Unified stated that they have 3 transition classes with 18-22 year olds that come to Mt. SAC and attend classes here 2 days a week.

Gently Ang from Cal Poly, Pomona stated that it is common for students with head injuries transferring from community college who have little to no documentation of their disability. They have received services throughout their attendance at the community college but they have nothing to provide to universities when they transfer. Without formal assessment information universities don't know how to best serve the student. Who makes the determination on who gets assessed and who doesn't? Jill Wilkerson, DSP&S Instructional Specialist, who has substantial knowledge of head injuries and co-runs our Acquired Brain Injury program, explained that not all students need to be formally assessed. There are baselines that are used from some of the software programs that enable them to determine the student's area of weakness.

It was also pointed out that community colleges are required to have formal documentation of disabilities and the limitations caused. Mt. SAC DSP&S has initiated an emphasis on transfer and is better preparing the student with all the information they need to transfer such as verification of disability, educational limitations, accommodations provided at Mt. SAC and other useful information in a "Transfer Portfolio" the student can take away with them and present to the university.

Pauline Pina, Department of Rehabilitation Counselor, Ontario Branch shared a success story about one of our former DSP&S students, Olivia Alatorre who went on to receive her Bachelors Degree and is now working full time in Human Resources.

Andrew Rountree, Service Center for Independent Living, announced that he could probably be considered one of our success stories as well since he is a former Mt. SAC, DSP&S student.

### **Veterans**

Jill Wilkerson announced that Mt. SAC now has an official Veteran's Club on campus. There are issues unique to Veteran's in their return to school that we anticipate that the Club will be able to help assist with. Some of the injuries that Veteran's are coming back from war are: ABI, Hearing, PTSD, some physical disabilities or a combination of them.

### **Other**

Pauline Pina explained that the educational plan that we provide to our students is very helpful to the Department of Rehabilitation in assisting their clients and has been very happy with the services students receive from DSP&S at Mt. SAC.

Next meeting will be during the Spring semester, April 30, 2009, 3:00-5:00 p.m. Information will be sent prior to the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.