Feb. 2, 2023

Counseling dept. meeting minutes

Note-taker: Ankur 2:20-4:00 (Guillermo from 2:10-2:20)

**Announcements:**

Liz G.: Auto 154 has Auto 80 and DET 179 as a pre-requisite.

Filomena A.: students can challenge the prerequisite (s) if they have a background in automotive.

 Yesenia H.:  If EOPS students cannot find their books in the bookstore. EOPS students can let the EOPS office know so they can purchase books outside of the bookstore.

Roberto A.:  Counseling 7 and Counseling 6 are still looking for students. Classes are in person.

**Program updates**

Roberto A.:  Pharmacy Tech is coming back. The program is now 19 units. The program needs to update majors and certificates page. PHARM 150 will typically run in summer: <https://portal.santarosa.edu/SRWeb/SR_ProgramOfStudyRCS.aspx?MCID=2148>

Tony V.: HOPE center is interviewing for positions. Hoping to get to 125-150 students being served.

Samantha M.: Lanzamiento program updates. Feb. 10 is Discover Davis event. Sign ups are happening for Lanzamiento and Puente students. Some trips to CSU coming up. If any students are part of program please refer them to workshops coming up. https://transfer.santarosa.edu/lanzamiento-workshops-and-special-events

Geoff N. & Vince H.: substantial changes coming to application for Rad Tech. Tammy will discuss more next week.

Nicole F.: SRT updates

Guillermo G.: Academic senate considering whether we want to pursue being a teaching school for cvc.edu.

Amy M.: Transfer Center has quick question feature, being utilized well by students, and homepage has resources for students on applying for ADT. Many univ. reps. scheduled; please coach students on value of meeting with transfer reps. Transfer 101 and financing bach. degree workshops coming up. Exciting field trips coming up.

**Technical training** from Empire College School of Law

Dena Dowsett: Asst. Dean of Admissions & Marketing for Empire College School of Law.

Dahnja Schiro: Director of Admissions

Accreditation: Empire is accredited in CA- students can take CA BAR exam. If student wants to move out of state, they’d have to look at reciprocity agreements (like practicing in CA x # of years first). By contrast, graduates from an ABA program can take BAR exam in any state. ABA accredited law schools have to have day program and f/t faculty. Empire doesn’t have that. Faculty are practitioners, some sitting judges, etc. Cost savings mean tuition is 1/3 to ½ cost of a private ABA-accredited law school.

Evening classes M-Th starting 6:30pm. Private non-profit. No longer a for-profit. Several campus locations, plus a hybrid online option. 1:1 admissions support. Student support inc. acad. Advising, academic support. Required experiential learning, under supervision of attorneys, in legal clinics. BAR prep included in cost of attendance. Almost 64% first-time BAR taker pass rate. This is much higher than other accredited CA schools. In comparing law schools, students should look at what 5 year cumulative BAR pass rate is. Empire’s is 55.4%. Min. 45% req. to maintain accreditation. Faculty support.

Admissions reqs: min. 60 college credits, 90% of which must be transferable to a 4 year college. 3.0 GPA ideally but it’s not a hard req.. No LSAT req. If GPA is below 3.0, may want to take LSAT. Looking for coursework in writing, stats, econ, history, others. They said upper div. coursework where possible but not req. Holistic review- if there’s a bad semester on transcript can just speak to that in personal statement.

Academic offerings: JD, Master of Legal Studies (MLS), joint JD/MLS, Master of Laws (LLM)- for students with foreign law degree who want to be able to sit for law exam here.

JD program takes 3.5-4 years to complete. Can apply to start in spring, summer, or fall. From app to decision is 7-10 days. Students coming in with bach. vs. assoc. degrees coming in seem to perform similarly. Students with grad degree tend to perform better.

27% of practicing attorneys in Sonoma county went to Empire.

Empire supports community with 18 legal clinics at low or no cost to community.

Jenna Sarmiento: personal experience as student at Empire.

**Technical training** & updates for math

Jen Carlin-Goldberg: some STEM majors are coming in underprepared for pre-calc courses. MATH 154 was immersive, had high retention rate. Fewer underrepresented students are going into STEM since the system no longer has non-transfer level math. No online math courses are planned. It’s not a dept. policy but they do req. in-person proctored testing. To return to online courses, the course outlines would have to be changed- go through process of revision. Hybrid courses are filling faster than all f2f. Students tend to stay longer to the end of class sessions which means higher overall success rates. Can explore expanding hybrid and possibly evening hybrid.