

**Proposal for Adding a New Faculty Position
For the 2008-09 Academic Year**

Please enter your responses using the text boxes below and email this form to Susan Myers, Faculty Senate President smyers@ohlone.edu by 5:00 pm on April 13, 2007:

Department Making the Proposal:

Counseling Department

Author(s) of the Proposal:

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A. Provide a summary description of the position.

The International Student Counselor will provide academic, personal & career counseling and teach Personal Development courses for International Students and students in the English Language Institute (all of whom are students attending Ohlone on an F-1 Visa).

B. Relationship to College-Wide Needs

1. How does the position relate to our college goals?

Goal number 1 of Ohlone College:

“Promote appreciation for and understanding of diverse races and culture by expanding the diversity of college personnel, international education offerings and exchanges, cross-cultural curricula, and ethnic/cultural events.”

One of the primary ways of meeting this goal has been through our International Student Program. Last year, in an effort to increase our International Student population and establish an English Language Institute, the college hired Eddie West to be the International Student Program Director. Since Eddie began, the international student enrollment has increased from 62 in fall 2006 to 138 in fall 2007. The number of students is expected to continue to increase dramatically.

2. How will classes offered meet student needs and goals?

The International Student Counselor will provide specialized counseling and advising for all International Students. International Student counseling is complex and highly specialized.

- 1) Academically, international students face many issues and regulations not encountered by resident students. International student have specific academic requirements that regulate the number of units in which they are required to enroll and complete each semester at Ohlone College, and additional specific procedures to follow in cases when International Students are unable to comply with the regulations. There are also strict SEVIS

Regulations (Homeland Security's Student and Exchange Visitor Information System) that must be adhered to.

- 2) International students are often subject to restrictions that make it either impossible or more difficult to enter certain programs of study at colleges and universities. These restrictions are rarely standard/uniform and vary from major to major and from institution to institution. For example, Ohlone restricts International students from enrolling into certain associate degree programs. California universities (both public and private) also have a wide range of admissions regulations in place that only affect International Students. These regulations change from year to year and are very challenging to monitor. A dedicated International Student Counselor is needed to specialize in this area of advising.
- 3) International students have special personal counseling needs because they are often living on their own, adjusting to a new culture, a new educational system, and trying to manage financially and socially.

The International Student Counselor will also teach Personal Development courses that meet the specific needs of these students. Some examples of PD classes or workshops could include: Orientation, Understanding the US Educational System; Major & Career Exploration; Transfer Issues for International Students; Making Connections and Getting Support; Effective Participation in American Classrooms; SEVIS Regulations, Health Science Degrees for International Students.

3. How does the position address the needs of the campus or the Newark Center?

The number of International Students has grown dramatically over the past year, and is expected to continue to grow. However, this growth can be sustained only if Ohlone is known as an institution that supports International Students and understands their specific challenges and needs. There are many other Bay Area colleges that have well developed International Student Programs and have full time counseling and support staff to serve these students.

The entire Ohlone community benefits from the increased cultural diversity that International Students bring to the college. Ohlone students and faculty are able to interact with students from around the world; this enriches our entire experience, both inside and outside the classroom.

4. Does the position address an area of growth?

This position is crucial to sustain enrollment growth of International Students. The potential for future growth is very strong as long as the quality of the program, including support services, is developed.

C. Relationship to Department Needs

1. Does the position reflect department goals resulting from program review?

Yes. In the most recent program review of International Students Program, 2005, the need for a dedicated counselor for International Students is clearly stated as a goal as the program expands.

With the doubling of students in the last year, and the plans for the expansion of the English Language Institute, the need for a dedicated counselor to this program is now.

2. What is the ratio of full time to part time faculty?

There are no part time faculty assigned to the International Student Program. There is one full time counseling faculty with an initial 10% assignment to the International Student Program. Since the beginning of the spring 2007 semester, this faculty member has been required to spend much more time addressing the needs of International Students, and has been unable to perform many of her other responsibilities.

Within the counseling department the ratio of full time to part time faculty is 2:1

3. What is the current WSCH/FTEF in the department?

There are 138 International Students currently enrolled at Ohlone; these students are required to enroll in at least 12 units each semester, but most are enrolled in more units.

4. Is this position related to a new program?

The International Student Program is not a new program, but the establishment of the English Language Institute is new, and the hiring of an International Student Program Director last year, has marked a significant institutional commitment to develop and expand international programs.

D. Any other rationale to support the position proposal:

The International Student Program generates significant revenue for the college. International Student enrollment fees for the Fall 2007 semester were over \$350,000. If current growth continues as expected, enrollment fees for this program could be well over a million dollars for the 2008-2009 academic year. This revenue is not limited by the state-imposed enrollment cap. However, it is essential that some of this revenue be "re-invested" to maintain the quality and integrity of the program, and to make Ohlone College attractive to future International Students.