

May 3, 2005

Summer Coverage at Community Colleges

Note from Earl Martin @ Everett

The last statewide survey on this question (now a few years old) reported even numbers of schools addressing this across 5 or so methods. Here are the findings:

Summer Quarter Counselor Staffing

For summer quarter, respondents chose part-time hourly rate (13) and daily rate (12) as the top two counselor funding options. Alternative work year (8), extended annual contracts (6), compensatory/flextime (6) and other (6) were the remaining choices.

1. Spokane Falls - paid at our regular salary level during the summer academic quarter, then have another 40 day contract (stipulated under the master contract) that we can use throughout the year to cover breaks (winter, spring and summer breaks)

We have not heard about any budgetary concerns or problems as yet.

2. South Puget Sound - Summer coverage by Counselors has been eliminated as of this year at SPSCC. Educational Planners will be here during the summer.

3. Olympic - At Olympic, we have funding for one position during the summer. This is split between the three of us and adjusted accordingly---depending on who wants to work or has some other project, etc, etc, etc. Over the last 18 years I've been here we've gone from 4 and a half full-time, tenured counselor to 3. We now have three campuses to cover versus 1 campus 18 years ago.

4. Columbia Basin - At CBC, we have a long standing tradition of working summers on "extended" contract status (24 extra days). There is current movement by the Admin. to label this as "Extra Contractual" and not guarantee the days. The group consensus here is, if the extra days go, so does summer coverage.

5. Centralia - We provide the coverage by trading days off during the slow time of the year. All five of us help out and it is voluntary. We also use Perkins dollars to cover part of the summer.

6. Bellevue - summer is voluntary, and compensated by traded days off during the regular school year.

7. Lake Wash. Tech - Here at Lake Washington I contract for the regular school year and then I have a separate contract for the summer. I work out with my supervisor how much I will work and when. We have a small staff and the expectation is that I will be doing some counseling but providing assistance and coverage for student services in general. Specifically in advising.

8. Spokane CC - At Spokane Community College we provide summer coverage all summer long, not just during summer quarter. By agreement in the Master Contract we can work as many as 40 days but many do not choose to work the full amount. We do have the option of not working at all so it is always on a volunteer basis. We have a summer contract budget to cover our pay for these days and it has not been cut down from the amount we used last year. We also have the option of working summer days in trade for days in another quarter under the Master Contract. (additional clarification) We have a 40 day (280 hr.) contract that can be used from the last day of spring qt. until the first day of fall qt. We also have an additional contract for 25 days that can be used for break time between all qts. (ie. during summer, if we use all 280 hrs. up by Aug. 20, then we could begin use of our 25 day contract until fall qt. begins.)

Our 40 day contract is paid at a percentage of step 3 of our salary scale, the 25 day is paid at our step placement.

9. Clark – At Clark College, two of the full time counselors work minimally through the summer and trade this time for extra time during the year. We also have some funds that we use to pay part time counselors.

10. South Seattle - At South, the three counselors typically get 20 days each during the summer so that there is coverage in August and September. It is voluntary, and has changed from year to year depending on the budget situation.

11. Grays Harbor - At Grays Harbor College, part of the summer coverage is provided by me, the director. I am a counselor but I am administrative exempt rather than faculty, so I'm on a 12 month contract. We provide additional coverage during June, August and September through a couple of sources. We have a Perkins funded part-time faculty counselor who works part of the summer. For the rest, I have some funding for extended contracts and part-time contracts, so if our counselors choose to work in the summer I can provide them with some hours, and for the times they don't choose to work, I can bring in part-time counselors.

12. North Seattle - North has no summer counseling.