# The Statewide Counseling Practices Survey Results

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Conducted by:

The Consultation Council Task Force on Counseling
Access/Issues



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### **Abstract**

A survey was developed by The Consultation Council Task Force on Counseling with the principal charge to assess the adequacy of student access to counseling services as well as the levels and kinds of services students need for student success in California community colleges. The survey instrument, consisting of 27 items, was given over the Internet during spring and fall of 2002, to members of the listserve representing counselors in California's community college system. The sample size was 649, with an unduplicated college name count of 93 that is 86% of the 108 community colleges in California.

Thirty minutes is the typical amount of time spent in counseling sessions with students but over half of the sample suggested that 45 minutes or more would be closer to an ideal time. The greatest hindrance within a counseling session was not having enough time. The length of time a student must wait to get a counseling appointment varies with the size of the college. Larger colleges mean more of a wait. A great number of counselors also reported that the actual student-to-counselor ratio (those who actually see students) was so inappropriate that it renders the demands stemming from matriculation regulations impossible to fulfill. Thus there is a desperate need to hire more counselors. Yet retirees and others who leave, effectively "close the doors behind them," meaning that budget cuts have resulted in not hiring or replacing those who have left. Further, many adjunct counselors have been let go or had their hours substantially reduced.

There are several items in the survey covering access issues, matters of staff development and aspects of roles properly being understood. Yet the overriding concerns sum up to not having sufficient resources following damaging budget cuts. In short, counselors are asked to keep doing what they are mandated to do but without the same size of staff and with greater student enrollments.

## **Acknowledgements**

We wish to thank several people for their assistance with preparing this report. The Consultation Council Task Force and their numerous resources, in particular, Julie Adams, Executive Director, The Academic Senate of California Community Colleges, were the ones primarily responsible for development of the survey. Then Rita Sabler, Publications Specialist, also of the Academic Senate, adapted the instrument for use on the Internet. It was at that time we researchers were called upon to assist with the analysis and prepare a report.

We are indebted to Julie Adams and Renee Reyes Tuller, Chairperson of the Consultation Council Task Force, for their invaluable help with giving us more background on methodology so that we could properly reconstruct what was done, when it was done, and by whom. Both of these individuals also assisted us with understanding some of the more pressing issues among the counseling ranks within California's community college system.

Finally, we want to express our appreciation to members of the Task Force. Meeting in Sacramento, they gave us very helpful recommendations regarding the final form of this report.

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### **Development of the Survey**

The principal charge of the Consultation Council Task Force insofar as this survey is concerned, was to assess the adequacy of student access to counseling services as well as the levels and kinds of services students need for student success in California community colleges. Stated another way, information was needed from the 108 colleges about the practices, issues, and/or obstacles that counselors face in working on the front lines of delivering counseling services. Naturally any survey on these matters administered just to counselors naturally reflects their perspective, rather than a composite student's perception, or a perspective from the administration within a college. Nevertheless, counselors are in a position to notice many of the global effects upon students.

The Task Force developed the items for the survey instrument and in doing so, consulted with the ASCCC Transfer and Articulation Ad Hoc Committee, and the CLFIC (Counseling Library Faculty Issues Committee). The finalized draft of the instrument occurred at the conclusion of the last meeting during the spring of 2002.

It was decided that the most effective way to reach counselors with a written survey was to use their listserve where approximately 800 or more counselors have signed on. Thus the survey was adapted for use on the Internet. The survey first appeared on the counseling listserve during May of 2002. By the time summer had arrived, it was determined that the sample size was insufficient (about 400) – no doubt due to the rush of end-of-semester tasks that counselors face. So during the fall of 2002, the survey was again put on the listserve to encourage those who did not have the time before to please take the time now. This procedure increased the sample size to 649, a healthy response rate of around 80% given that the listserve includes some 800 counselors. The complete survey instrument consisting of 27 questions can be found in Appendix D.

## The Sample

The details of the sample, that is, the characteristics of the respondents are found within the survey results. For this reason, only a summary is provided here. As stated before, the ending sample size was 649. Full-time counselors made up 84% of the sample while part-time or adjunct counselors accounted for 16%. In terms of years of service, the range was from 1 to 39 years with the median being 12 years. The colleges were also well represented in that an unduplicated count of institutions was 93 of 108, an 86% sampling rate. Of course, this does not suggest near perfect representation within each college. Finally, when asked what percent of time on the job is spent providing direct counseling to students, the median value was 90%. Given these facts, one could say with strong conviction that the sample is likely to be sufficient in order to capture many of the present concerns and issues facing all counselors in California's public community colleges.

## Key to Understanding the Tables

Here is a typical but shortened table of mock results to a hypothetical question on what amount of time (in minutes) is spent within a working day answering or making phone calls:

**EXAMPLE** 

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	5	3	25.0	27.3	27.3
	10	2	16.7	18.2	45.5
	20	2	16.7	18.2	63.6
]	30	2	16.7	18.2	81.8
	40	2	16.7	18.2	100.0
1	Total	11	91.7	100.0	
Missing	System	1	8.3		
Total		12	100.0		

At the top of nearly all the forthcoming tables are certain headings. The first column has no heading but beside the outcome response is the word "Valid." The first column is always what the respondent indicated in terms of answering the question posed. The order of the numerical answers usually goes from smallest (at the top) to highest (at the bottom). In this case the outcomes start with "5," then "10" on through 40 as the largest value in minutes.

The heading for the second column is "Frequency." These values are the cumulative counts of people in the sample who endorsed the response to the immediate left (or within the first column). In the example table, 3 people answered with "5" (5 minutes), 2 people answered with "10," etc. Note that only 11 total answered the question, there was 1 missing value, and the total number of people in the sample is "12."

The third column in the table is "Percent." These percentages are calculated by dividing each frequency by the total number and multiplying by 100. So the first is 3 divided by 12 and multiplied by 100 to get 25.0%. Only one-place accuracy is shown. Usually this column gets much less attention because the percentage values include even the people who did not answer the question (Missing). The fourth column is the one to examine.

The fourth column is "Valid Percent" meaning that the missing cases are not included in the percentage calculation. In the example table, 3 people out of 11 (not 12) multiplied by 100 gives 27.3%. So 27.3% of the people who answered the question gave a response of 5 minutes. Another 18.2% answered with "10," etc. Notice that the total of 100% lies beside the total frequencies of "11" (not 12).

The last column is "Cumulative Percent." Look at the output response of "20" in the first column. If you add all the frequencies opposite 20 and those opposite the lower values, you would have 2 + 2 + 3 or 7 out of 11. This translates to 63.6%. This means that 63.6% of the

valid responses fell at 20 or less. Most researchers consider the cumulative percents as percentile ranks. Thus 100% of the valid responses fell at 40 minutes or lower.

The next table occasionally seen in this report looks like this:

#### **Statistics**

#### **EXAMPLE**

N	Valid	11
	Missing	1
Mean		19.55
Median		20.00
Mode	i	5
Std. Deviation		13.68
Minimum		5
Maximum		40

Within the box is how many valid and missing cases there are for the hypothetical question, the mean (or average) is 19.55 minutes, the median or middle value within the ranked distribution of answers falls among the frequencies opposite the answer of "20." You may remember that the median represents half of the frequencies or a cumulative 50%. That is true, but the half (or the 50% person) falls within the cumulative percent of 63.6%. In other words, our middle person falls among others with the same "score" of 20. The mode is the value which occurs most often, in this case, "5" because there were 3 people with this output response and the 3 is higher than all other frequencies. Often there are ties among the highest frequencies, and so the mode becomes not a single value but a multiple one.

The standard deviation indicates the amount of dispersion from the mean value. Conceptually, it is similar to the average distance of all responses from the mean (19.55). For example, the value of "5" deviates 14.55 "points" from the mean (5 – 19.55), and this happened 3 times (the frequency). So the "average dispersion from the mean is about 13.68 minutes.

The last values reported in the smaller table are the lowest (minimum) and highest (maximum) values given as a response. As such, the range of valid answers is from 5 to 40.

In several questions, the answers do not lend themselves to quite the same statistical analyses as in this example. Hopefully, the comment section will clarify any questions you may have had.

Question 1.

What actual percentage of your time is spent providing direct/or related counseling/advisement to students?

					Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	5	2	.3	.3	.3
	10	6	.9	1.0	1.3
1	15	1	.2	.2	1.4
ĺ	20	5	.8	.8	2.2
	25	2	.3	.3	2.6
	30	10	1.5	1.6	4.2
	35	10	1.5	1.6	5.8
	40	9	1.4	1.4	7.2
	45	4	.6	.6	7.9
	50	29	4.5	4.6	12.5
	55	2	.3	.3	12.8
l	60	21	3.2	3.4	16.2
	65	11	1.7	1.8	17.9
	70	32	4.9	5.1	23.1
ļ	75	43	6.6	6.9	30.0
	80	67	10.3	10.7	40.7
ľ	85	48	7.4	7.7	48.4
	90	105	16.2	16.8	65.2
	95	87	13.4	13.9	79.2
	100	130	20.0	20.8	100.0
	Total	624	96.1	100.0	
Missing	System	25	3.9		J
Total		649	100.0		

<u>Comment</u>: The wide range (5 – 100) indicates that the sample has included people with varied assignments in terms of load. The middle value (median) of the distribution falls within 90% of time spent counseling students. In fact, 70% of the sample have assignments of 80% or higher in terms of counseling students.

#### **Statistics**

What actual percentage of your time is spent providing direct/or related counseling/advisement to students?

N	Valid	624
	Missing	25
Mean		81.06
Median		90.00
Mode ,		100
Std. Deviation		20.37
Minimum		5
Maximum		100

Question 2A.

What percentage of your time is spent as a general counselor and/or specialty counselor? Specialty counselor

					Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	5	33	5.1	7.0	7.0
	10	28	4.3	5.9	12.9
İ	15	12	1.8	2.5	15.4
1	20	27	4.2	5.7	21.1
i	25	14	2.2	3.0	24.1
	30	14	2.2	3.0	27.1
i	35	10	1.5	2.1	29.2
	40	12	1.8	2.5	31.7
	45	7	1.1	1.5	33.2
	50	70	10.8	14.8	48.0
	55	4	.6	.8	48.8
1	60	9	1.4	1.9	50.7
	65	7	1.1	1.5	52.2
	70	9	1.4	1.9	54.1
	75	10	1.5	2.1	56.2
	80	13	2.0	2.7	59.0
	85	9	1.4	1.9	60.9
	90	26	4.0	5.5	66.4
1	95	33	5.1	7.0	73.4
	100	126	19.4	26.6	100.0
	Total	473	72.9	100.0	
Missing	System	176	27.1		
Total		649	100.0		

Comment: Some respondents seemed inclined to over-respond, like indicating that they spent 100% on specialty and another 100% on general counseling. We "cleaned up" the 2A and 2B data as best we could. Of those who do any specialty counseling, the median amount of time is about 60%, but the range is large, from 5% to 100% of time. The largest clusters within the distribution (see valid percent) fall at 50% and 100% of the time in terms of specialty counseling.

**Statistics** 

What percentage of your time is spent as a general counselor and/or specialty counselor? Specialty counselor

N	Valid	473
	Missing	176
Mean		61.43
Median		60.00
Mode		100
Std. Deviation		34.61
Minimum		5
Maximum		100

Question 2B.

What percentage of your time is spent as a general counselor and/or specialty counselor? General counselor

					O d a 10
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	5	34	5.2	7.1	7.1
	10	28	4.3	5.9	13.0
	15	9	1.4	1.9	14.9
İ	20	15	2.3	3.1	18.0
1	25	5	.8	1.0	19.1
l	30	14	2.2	2.9	22.0
	35	5	.8	1.0	23.1
i	40	13	2.0	2.7	25.8
	44	1	.2	.2	26.0
	45	6	.9	1.3	27.3
ŀ	50	71	10.9	14.9	42.1
i	55	9	1.4	1,9	44.0
	60	14	2.2	2.9	47.0
	65	10	1.5	2.1	49.1
	70	8	1.2	1.7	50.7
	75	18	2.8	3.8	54.5
	80	25	3.9	5.2	59.7
	85	10	1.5	2.1	61.8
	90	31	4.8	6.5	68.3
	95	26	4.0	5.5	73.8
	100	125	19.3	26.2	100.0
	Total	477	73.5	100.0	
Missing	System	172	26.5		i
Total		649	100.0		

<u>Comment</u>: Of all those who do general counseling, the median amount of time spent on this task is 70%. However, the largest clusters within the distribution (see valid percent) fall at 50% and 100%. This means that a sizeable number of people are working either 50% or 100% at general counseling.

#### **Statistics**

What percentage of your time is spent as a general counselor and/or specialty counselor? General counselor

	N	Valid	477
ı		Missing	172
	Mean		63.93
	Median		70.00
ı	Mode		100
	Std. Deviation		33.20
l	Minimum		5
L	Maximum		100

Question 3.

What is amount of minutes you are allotted for a typical one session student appointment (to the nearest 5 minutes)?

					Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	10	3	.5	.5	.5
ı	15	9	1.4	1.4	1.9
	20	9	1.4	1.4	3.3
	25	9	1.4	1.4	4.7
ļ	30	474	73.0	74.9	79.6
1	35	3	.5	.5	80.1
	40	5	.8	.8	80.9
ĺ	45	33	5.1	5.2	86.1
l	50	12	1.8	1.9	88.0
	55	1	.2	.2	88.2
	60	71	10.9	11.2	99.4
	90	1	.2	.2	99.5
	95	3 [	.5	.5	100.0
	Total	633	97.5	100.0	
Missing	System	16	2.5		
Total		649	100.0		

Comment: By an overwhelming majority, 74.9% of the sample indicated that 30 minutes is allotted for an appointment. While 30 is traditional, there were 75 individuals (11.8%) who said that 60 or more minutes is allotted per session. The highest values here could also mean that there are simply no fixed limits to a session – whatever the counselor deems necessary.

Statistics

What is amount of minutes you are allotted for a typical one session student appointment (to the nearest 5 minutes)?

N	Valid	633
	Missing	16
Mean		34.55
Median		30.00
Mode		30
Std. Deviation		11.59
Minimum		10
Maximum		95

Question 4.

What is amount of minutes you believe to be necessary for a typical one session student appointment (to the nearest 5 minutes)?

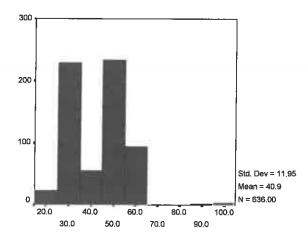
					Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	15	5	.8	.8	.8
l	20	17	2.6	2.7	3.5
	25	11	1.7	1.7	5.2
	30	218	33.6	34.3	39.5
	35	8	1.2	1.3	40.7
	40	47	7.2	7.4	48.1
	45	194	29.9	30.5	78.6
	50	39	6.0	6.1	84.7
	55	4	.6	.6	85.4
	60	89	13.7	14.0	99.4
	90	1	.2	.2	99.5
	95	3	.5	.5	100.0
	Total	636	98.0	100.0	
Missing	System	13	2.0		
Total		649	100.0	_	

Comment: There are three response clusters within this distribution: 34.3% indicating that 30 minutes would be necessary; 30.5% suggesting that 45 minutes is necessary; and another 14% claiming that 60 minutes would be ideal. The median of the distribution falls within the numerical category of 45 minutes. The graph below also shows the two main intervals, 25-35 and 45-55 with midpoints of 30 and 50 minutes. Responses to another question elicit comments that 30 minutes is usually not sufficient to accomplish all that is needed within a session.

#### **Statistics**

What is amount of minutes you believe to be necessary for a typical one session student appointment (to the nearest 5 minutes)?

	~-	
N	Valid	636
1	Missing	13
Mean		40.89
Median		45.00
Mode		30
Std. Deviation		11.95
Minimum		15
Maximum		95



Necessary Minutes For Appointments

## Question 5. (See Appendix A)

Please list any frequent factors (with a word or short phrase) that in your opinion hinder your efforts in counseling/advising students. (If none, write in "None")

Comment for #5: There is a tongue-in-cheek saying within research circles that "Only once will a survey taker ask questions that call for "write-in" responses." While forced-choice formats are tallied by computers, there is no automatic tallying for individual prose. With questions that touch the emotions of the respondents, there are apt to be hundreds of answers - and not all short ones either. Yet write-in answers provide a depth of coverage that may not be found with forced-choice formats. At best, the survey taker must mentally tally the recurring themes that are expressed in so many ways. Such is the case with question 5. The exact manner of responses was left intact except for editing to shorten the comments, and correcting minor typing errors. They are listed in the Appendix A.

Briefly, some of the recurring themes mentioned are as follows:

- Not enough time in appointments with students
- Not enough time for follow-up (e.g., students, emails, phone, meetings)
- Student to counselor ratio; Too many students to serve
- Student access to counselors; Not enough counseling appointments available
- Technology/computer problems (e.g., accessing information; technology not user friendly
- Too many administrative responsibilities; too many meetings
- Lack of resources (e.g., transcripts and records)
- Too many special projects assigned without replacement of counseling hours
- Too many clerical tasks (e.g., checking prerequisites, open classes)
- Inadequate clerical support
- Excessive paperwork forms
- Lack of support or poor leadership from administrative staff
- Transcript evaluation problems
- Excessive phone interruptions during student appointments
- Lack of privacy inadequate offices to maintain confidentiality
- Communication with limited English speaking students
- Student "no shows," late for appointment, or not prepared for appointment
- Too many drop-in appointments or too little
- Staying current about information that is always changing
- Inadequate articulation with universities especially private ones
- Need for training related to counseling issues
- Budget cuts and lack of sufficient staffing

Question 6.

n your opinion, does your college provide sufficient funds for your continued professional development?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Definitely Yes	58	8.9	9.1	9.1
	Mostly Yes	246	37.9	38.8	47.9
	Not Sure	40	6.2	6.3	54.3
j	Mostly No	177	27.3	27.9	82.2
]	Definitely No	106	16.3	16.7	98.9
i	Question not applicable	7	1.1	1.1	100.0
	Total	634	97.7	100.0	
Missing	System	15	2.3		
Total		649	100.0		

Comment: The combined "Yes" categories equal 47.9% of the sample. The combined "No" categories equal 44.6%. The "Unsure" and the "Not applicable" answers round out the distribution with 7.4%. The issue was also examined in a cross tabulation with job status. The combined "Yes" for full-time counselors is 50.5% and 58.2% for part-time staff. The combined "No" for full-time is 49.5% and for part-time counselors, 41.8%.

If the "Not sure" and "Not applicable" categories are deleted from the analysis, the overall "Yes" responses increase to 51.8% while the "No" responses climb to 48.2%. Clearly, the opinion about sufficient professional development funds is a divided issue for this sample. A good follow-up would be to ascertain the amount of money actually allocated by each college for such use with counseling departments. Other questions might ask whether counselors take advantage of what funds are allocated, and if all counselors are really provided the opportunity to engage in such activities irrespective of funding level?

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#### Question 7.

If you were able to increase the services your department provides, in what area would you prefer the greatest help? (Select all that apply)

Area	Endorsements	% of sample	Rank order
Articulation	296	45.6	1
Athletics	89	13.7	12
Enroll in a class(es)	130	20.0	10
More clerical support	288	44.4	2
Multiculturalism	171	26.3	9
Personal crisis training	282	43.5	3
Special Programs	181	27.9	8
Supplies	114	17.6	11
Technical support	214	33.0	7
Technology training	241	37.1	5
Training in career counseling	271	41.8	4
Transfer	234	36.1	6
Veterans	67	10.3	13

Comment: Because individuals are allowed more than one response, the percentages will not sum to 100. The top six categories (from 13 stated choices) as judged in need of greatest help are: Articulation (45.6%), More clerical support (44.4%), Personal crisis training (43.5%), Training in career counseling (41.8%), Technology training (37.1%), and Transfer (36.1%). Many others were added in a "write-in" field. These are labeled as Question 7. (Other) and found in Appendix B.

## Question 7. Other (See Appendix B)

#### Comment (to #7, Other):

There is a considerable listing in Appendix B of suggestions for obtaining greater help with existing services. The most frequent themes are given below:

- More counselors are needed to adequately provide services
- Personal counseling
- Attrition or retention of students
- Re-entry students
- On-line counseling
- DSPS / Learning disabilities
- Improved offices
- Technology training or improvement
- Bilingual counselors or bilingual staff
- ESL students
- International students

Question 8.

Do you have direct access to a computer that provides quick access to ASSIST?

					Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	Yes	617	95.1	97.5	97.5
1	No	16	2.5	2.5	100.0
	Total	633	97.5	100.0	
Missing	System	16	2.5	i	
Total		649	100.0		

Comment: Fully 97.5% of the total sample indicated that they have direct access to ASSIST. In a cross-tabulation with employment status, 97.9% of full-time counselors answered "Yes," while 95% of part-time counselors responded that they have direct access. Of the few individuals who indicated "No," there usually is another person(s) from the same college who indicated "Yes." Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that the sample can use the ASSIST program.

The next question (#9) is conditional in that it is based only upon "Yes" responses to question (#8).

Question 9.

If so, what percentage of time do you use ASSIST?

					0
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	5	45	6.9	7.6	7.6
	10	52	8.0	8.8	16.5
i	15	9	1.4	1.5	18.0
	20	44	6.8	7.5	25.5
1	25	40	6.2	6.8	32.3
1	30	45	6.9	7.6	39.9
	35	15	2.3	2.5	42.4
1	40	27	4.2	4.6	47.0
1	45	8	1.2	1.4	48.4
	50	73	11.2	12.4	60.8
	55	13	2.0	2.2	63.0
	60	34	5.2	5.8	68.8
	65	12	1.8	2.0	70.8
	70	31	4.8	5.3	76.1
	75	34	5.2	5.8	81.8
	80	32	4.9	5.4	87.3
	85	15	2.3	2.5	89.8
	90	34	5.2	5.8	95.6
	95	11	1.7	1.9	97.5
	100	15	2.3	2.5	100.0
	Total	589	90.8	100.0	
Missing	0	16	2.5		
	System	44	6.8		ľ
	Total	60	9.2	ļ	İ
Total		649	100.0		

<u>Comment</u>: The percentages in the distribution indicate the relative number of cases within every 10, that ASSIST is used. While there is a considerable range of values to this question, the median is 50% which suggests that about half of the counseling sessions require use of ASSIST.

#### **Statistics**

If so, what percentage of time do you use ASSIST?

N	Valid	589
	Missing	60
Mean		46.55
Median		50.00
Mode		50
Std. Deviation		28.23
Minimum		5
Maximum		100
Percentiles	25	20.00
]	50	50.00
	75	70.00

Question 10.

In your opinion, have you received or are you receiving training in the technology designed to facilitate your job?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes, very adequate	239	36.8	38.1	38.1
	Yes, but inadequate	299	46.1	47.7	85.8
	No	89	13.7	14.2	100.0
	Total	627	96.6	100.0	
Missing	System	22	3.4		
Total		649	100.0		

Comment: The answers given this question clearly point to a need for improved technology training for counselors. Only 38.1% of the sample said that their technology training was adequate while nearly 62% responded with "inadequate" or "No." It brings to mind the question of whether the existing technology staff are given the responsibility of conducting most of the training? If so, then the case may be insufficient communication between technical and non-technical people. It could also be too little training.

Question 11.

Do you have an American Disability Act "approved" office space?

:		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	265	40.8	41.7	41.7
1	No	122	18.8	19.2	60.9
	Not Sure	248	38.2	<b>3</b> 9.1	100.0
	Total	635	97.8	100.0	
Missing	System	14	2.2		
Total		649	100.0		

Comment: There is a relatively high percentage (39.1%) of "Not Sure" answers to this question. Approximately 37.6% of full-time staff were "Not Sure," while 47.5% of part-time staff were unsure if their office was an "approved" office space. In hindsight, the definition of "approved" needed more elaboration. Note that in the next question, (#12), the answers indicate much less ambiguity.

Question 12.

Is your office wheel-chair accessible?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	478	73.7	75.9	75.9
	No	85	13.1	13.5	89.4
i	Not Sure	67	10.3	10.6	100.0
	Total	630	97.1	100.0	
Missing	System	19	2.9		
Total		649	100.0		

<u>Comment</u>: A large majority of the sample (75.9%) indicated that their office is wheel-chair accessible while 13.5% believe otherwise, and another 10.6% are unsure. The answers vary only slightly when cross-tabulated by employment status: 76.8% of full-time counselors said "Yes," while 73% of part-time counselors answered in the affirmative.

Questions 13 through 17 on the web-based questionnaire were preceded by a definition of "reasonable efforts." The definition is: For Matriculation purposes, reasonable effort is defined as "at least one additional contact or opportunity for special student population beyond what is provided to the general student population." Special populations are defined as "undeclared students, students on probation or dismissal and students taking basic skills courses."

Question 13.

In your opinion, does your department make "reasonable efforts" to ensure that all probationary students participate in counseling?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	397	61.2	62.7	62.7
	Often	106	16.3	16.7	79.5
	Not Often	81	12.5	12.8	92.3
	No	49	7.6	<b>7</b> .7	100.0
	Total	633	97.5	100.0	
Missing	System	16	2.5		
Total		649	100.0		

**Comment:** The combined "Yes" and "Often" responses sum to 79.5% of the sample. The "Not Often" and "No" answers sum to 20.5% of the sample. A few of the "No" responses are offset by other individuals from the same college who said either "Yes" or "Often."

#### Question 14.

In your opinion, does your department make "reasonable efforts" to ensure hat all students that have not declared a specific educational goal participate n counseling or counseling workshops/classes to assist them in the process of selecting an educatio

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	273	42.1	43.0	43.0
	Often	134	20.6	21.1	64.1
	Not Often	132	20.3	20.8	84.9
	No	96	14.8	15.1	100.0
	Total	635	97.8	100.0	
Missing	System	14	2.2		
Total		649	100.0		

**Comment:** As previously indicated, there is apt to be different opinions from some individuals working at the same college. The summary statistic in this case is the number of people who indicate "Yes" or "Often," in this case, 64.1%. The negative oriented responses of "Not Often" or "No" sum to 35.9% which is a large enough value to cause concern.

Question 15.

In your opinion, does your department make "reasonable efforts" to ensure that all students who are enrolled in pre-collegiate basic skill courses participate in counseling or advisement?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	305	47.0	48.2	48.2
	Often	126	19.4	19.9	68.1
1	Not Often	120	18.5	19.0	87.0
	No	82	12.6	13.0	100.0
	Total	633	97.5	100.0	
Missing	System	16	2.5		
Total		649	100.0		

<u>Comment</u>: The sum of the "positive" responses of "Yes" or "Often" is 68.1%. The negative valued responses of "Not Often" or "No" is 31.9%, a large enough value that would suggest more intensive efforts be made to insure seeing such students.

Question 16.

In your opinion, do you receive training to provide accurate program and transfer requirements to students?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes, very adequate	417	64.3	66.3	66.3
1	Yes, but inadequate	182	28.0	28.9	95.2
	No	30	4.6	4.8	100.0
	Total	629	96.9	100.0	
Missing	System	20	3.1		
Total		649	100.0		

<u>Comment</u>: Adequate training was endorsed by 66.3% of the sample while inadequate training was endorsed by 28.9%. No training was indicated by 4.8% of the sample.

The cross-tabulation by employment status did not reveal huge differences. This table is given below. The "very adequate" rate for full-time staff is 67.6%, for part-time the "very adequate" percent is 60%.

Your Status \* In your opinion, do you receive training to provide accurate program and transfer requirements to students? Crosstabulation

Count		<u>.</u>					
		In your opin to provid transfer re					
		Yes, very adequate	Yes, very Yes, but				
Your		3	2		5		
Status	Full Time	355	147	23	525		
1	Part Time	59	33	7	99		
Total		417	182	30	629		

Question 17.

Does your college have a policy statement that mentions support for the counseling function on your campus?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	193	29.7	30.4	30.4
1	No	113	17.4	17.8	48.3
	Not Sure	328	50.5	51.7	100.0
	Total	634	97.7	100.0	
Missing	System	15	2.3		
Total		649	100.0		

<u>Comment</u>: Most of the sample (51.7%) is not sure if there is a policy statement supporting the counseling function. Approximately 51% of full-time counselors were unsure, while about 58% of part-time counselors were unsure. Presumably, if such a policy exits, it would be found in the college catalog or among Policies of the Board of Trustees. One might also examine Vision, Mission, and Statement of General Goals for inferences of such a policy.

Question 18.

Do you believe that the support staff in your counseling department is sufficient to meet the needs of counselors and students?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	193	29.7	30.3	30.3
	No	403	62.1	63.4	93.7
l	Not Sure	40	6.2	6.3	100.0
	Total	636	98.0	100.0	
Missing	System	13	2.0		
Total		649	100.0		

**Comment:** The general conclusion gained from the answers to this question is simply that there is not sufficient support staff to meet the needs of counselors and students (63.4%). Cross-tabulation with years of service, the following percentages of "No" were found: 1-6 years of service = 46.4%; 7-12 years of service = 64.3%; 13-20 years of service = 76.9%; and from 21-39 years of service = 67.2%. All the years of service categories in this analysis have more than 100 people in the calculation.

Question 19.

Do you believe that the counseling faculty to student ratio on your campus is sufficient to meet the needs of students?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	102	15.7	16.0	16.0
	No	487	75.0	76.6	92.6
	Not Sure	47	7.2	7.4	100.0
1	Total	636	98.0	100.0	
Missing	System	13	2.0		
Total		649	100.0		

<u>Comment</u>: A very high percentage (76.6%) of the sample indicated that the counselor/student ratio is not sufficient to meet the needs of students. Cross-tabulation with years of service as a counselor also revealed consistency. The rate of "No" responses by service years is: 1 - 6 years of service = 74.6%; 7 - 12 years of service = 75.5%; 13 - 20 years of service = 76.3%; and 21 - 39 years of service = 81%. Among full-time counselors the rate is 77.5.

The cross-tabulation with size of college is shown below. The higher percentages are "No."

emographics \* Do you believe that the counseling faculty to student ratio on your campus is sufficient t meet the needs of students? Crosstabulation

			faculty to campus is	eve that the student ratio sufficient to ds of studen	on your meet the	
			Yes	No	Not Sure	Total
Demographics	Very Small	Count	8	18	3	29
		% within Demographics	27.6%	62.1%	10.3%	100. <b>0%</b>
	Small	Count	26	82	6	114
	% within De	% within Demographics	22.8%	71.9%	5.3%	100. <b>0%</b>
	Medium	Count	35	167	18	220
		% within Demographics	15.9%	75.9%	8.2%	100. <b>0%</b>
	Large	Count	28	209	20	257
		% within Demographics	10.9%	81.3%	7.8%	100.0%
Total		Count	97	476	47	620
		% within Demographics	15.6%	76.8%	7.6%	100.0%

Question 20.

Are students at your college generally able to get an appointment with you within 5 working days?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	315	48.5	49.6	49.6
1	No	250	38.5	39.4	89.0
!	Not Sure	70	10.8	11.0	100.0
]	Total	635	97.8	100.0	
Missing	System	14	2.2		
Total		649	100.0		

<u>Comment</u>: While 49.6% of the sample indicated "Yes" to this question, it is noteworthy that 39.4% said that students could not get an appointment within 5 working days. It is interesting to cross-tabulate this question with relative size of the college. Students at larger colleges would seem to have more problems in getting appointments.

Demographics \* Are students at your college generally able to get an appointment with you within 5 working days? Crosstabulation

			Are students at your college generally able to get an appointment with you within 5 working days?			
			Yes	No	Not Sure	Total
Demographics	Very Small	Count	22	6	2	30
		% within Demographics	73.3%	20.0%	6.7%	100.0%
	Small	Count	69	34	10	113
		% within Demographics	61.1%	30.1%	8.8%	100.0%
	Medium	Count	109	91	19	219
		% within Demographics	49.8%	41.6%	8.7%	100.0%
	Large	Count	105	116	36	257
		% within Demographics	40.9%	45.1%	14.0%	100.0%
Total	•	Count	305	247	67	619
		% within Demographics	49.3%	39.9%	10.8%	100.0%

Question 21.

-low many one-appointment sessions do you think a general student should have with a counselor within an academic year?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	One	49	7.6	7.8	7.8
	Two	317	48.8	50.4	58.2
	Three	134	20.6	21.3	79.5
	Four	112	17.3	17.8	97.3
	Five	5	.8	.8	98.1
İ	Six	9	1.4	1.4	99.5
	Eight	1	.2	.2	99.7
İ	Ten	1	.2	.2	99.8
	More than 10	1	.2	.2	100.0
1	Total	629	96.9	100.0	
Missing	System	20	3.1		
Total		649	100.0		

<u>Comment</u>: The median (middle value) as well as the mode (most frequent endorsement) are both 2 sessions. However another 39.1% of the sample indicated either 3 or 4 sessions would be appropriate or ideal. On other open-ended questions, the respondents indicated a need to have the option of more time per session, i.e., that 30 minutes can be very inadequate for some students.

Question 22.

How many one-appointment sessions do you think a special program or at-risk student should have with a counselor within an academic year?

	_	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative
Markat		Frequency			Percent
Valid	One	1	.2	.2	.2
	Two	41	6.3	6.5	6.6
1	Three	78	12.0	12.3	19.0
	Four	248	38.2	39.2	58.2
	Five	63	9.7	10.0	68.2
	Six	144	22.2	22.8	91.0
	Seven	5	.8	.8	91.8
İ	Eight	35	5.4	5.5	97.3
ļ	Nine	7	1.1	1.1	98.4
	Ten	4	.6	.6	99.1
	More than 10	6	.9	.9	100.0
1	Total	632	97.4	100.0	
Missing	System	17	2.6		
Total		649	100.0		

<u>Comment</u>: The median (middle value) as well as the mode (most frequent endorsement) are both 4 sessions. Yet another 32.8% of the sample indicated either 5 or 6 sessions would be appropriate. As noted in the comment section of question #21, there is a stated need to have some degree of flexibility about the time length of appointments.

## Question 23. (See Appendix C)

Is there anything you wish to share with the counseling task force about your job that was not addressed by this survey? If so, please indicate here. Please provide additional information for consideration in this survey.

<u>Comment #23</u>: In an attempt to simplify the reading of these, all responses were edited-mostly into a statement or two. The vast majority of respondents used this question as an opportunity to pour out their perceptions and feelings on issues, what is happening on their campuses, and their anxieties about the changes. The reader is encouraged to examine Appendix C in order to gain more information than in the following highlights:

- The major concern often repeated is how budget cuts have curtailed services.
- More counselors need to be hired. Instead there are few, if any, replacements for those retiring or leaving the counseling program.
- Adjunct counselors have been substantially cut in number.
- Student enrollments are increasing but there are fewer counselors to see them. As such, the case loads have skyrocketed.
- Adjunct counselors relate that they do not feel they are treated as equals even though they do much of the work of seeing students.
- Counseling faculty do not feel supported by the college administration.
- There is a great lack of understanding by administration and instructional faculty as to what counselors actually do and what their needs are.
- Counselors in attempting to meet the needs of all students take on special coordination or other assignments which require time that is not supplemented by the counseling department.
- The is a perceived inequity between loads of specialty counselors versus generalists.
- Waiting periods for appointments with counselors is increasing.
- Standards need to be developed for on-line counseling.
- The general feeling is that counselors are asked to do more but with less support.

## Question 24. (Your Status, Full-time or Part-time)

#### **Your Status**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Part Time	102	15.7	15.7	15.7
	Full Time	532	82.0	82.0	97.7
1		15	2.3	2.3	100.0
	Total	649	100.0	100.0	

<u>Comment</u>: Deleting the 15 missing values, the corrected percentages are: Part-time 16.1% and full-time 83.9%. This finding may indicate that part-time counselors did not have easy access to the web-based survey, were unaware of its existence, or possibly choose not to respond because of their employment status (part-time).

## Question 25. (Years of Service, All Colleges) (Also see following page)

## Years of Service

				Cumulative
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid 1	14	2.2	2.2	2.2
2	29	4.5	4.6	6.8
3	39	6.0	6.2	12.9
4	40	6.2	6.3	19.2
5	27	4.2	4.3	23.5
6	33	5.1	5.2	28.7
7	30	4.6	4.7	33.4
8	17	2.6	2.7	36.1
9	20	3.1	3.2	39.3
10	31	4.8	4.9	44.2
11	11	1.7	1.7	45.9
12	34	5.2	5.4	51.3
13	26	4.0	4.1	55.4
14	27	4.2	4.3	59.6
15	40	6.2	6.3	65.9
16	10	1.5	1.6	67.5
17	15	2.3	2.4	69.9
18	13	2.0	2.1	71.9
19	5	.8	.8	72.7
20	34	5.2	5.4	78.1
21	10	1.5	1.6	79.7
22	19	2.9	3.0	82.6
23	12	1.8	1.9	84.5
24	6	.9	.9	85.5
25	19	2.9	3.0	88.5
26	12	1.8	1.9	90.4
27	13	2.0	2.1	92.4
28	7	1.1	1.1	93.5
29	5	.8	.8	94.3
30	18	2.8	2.8	97.2
31	5	.8	.8	97.9
32	5	.8	.8	98.7
33	1	.2	.2	98.9
34	3	.5	.5	99.4
36	1	.2	.2	99.5
38	2	.3	.3	99.8
39	1	.2	.2	100.0
Total	634	97.7	100.0	ļ
Missing System	15	2.3		I
Total	649	100.0		

## **Question 25 (continued)**

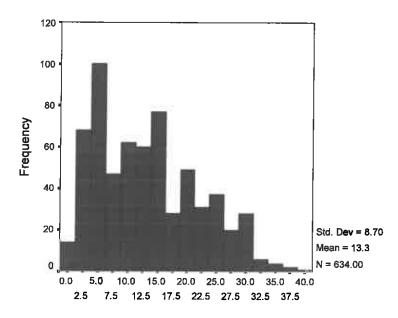
<u>Comment</u>: The sample includes a diverse number of service years with the central tendency measures being 12-13 years. The distribution shown by the histogram is slightly biased in favoring people with fewer years of service. Of course, that may also be a natural phenomenon reflecting recent hiring practices.

#### **Statistics**

#### Years of Service

N	Valid	634
	Missing	15
Mean		13.34
Median		12.00
Mode		4ª
Std. Deviation		8.70
Minimum		1
Maximum		39

a. Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown



Years of Service (All Colleges)

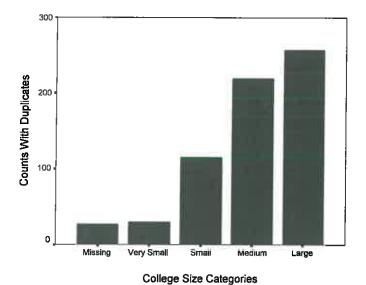
Question 26.

## (Demographics: Size of College)

#### **Demographics**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1 to 4999, Very Small	30	4.6	4.8	4.8
ļ	5000 to 10575, Small	115	17.7	18.4	23.2
	10576 to 18480, Medium	220	33.9	35.3	58.5
	18481+, Large	257	39.6	41.2	99.7
	Undetermined	2	.3	.3	100.0
	Total	624	96.1	100.0	
Missing	System	25	3.9		
Total		649	100.0		

<u>Comment</u>: The operational definitions of "very small," "small," etc., were based upon another research project using three years of fall enrollment data (late 1990's) from 40 California community colleges (Center for Student Success). Shown below is a bar graph of college sizes represented in the survey. Note that these include duplicated counts, meaning that more than one person from the same college may have responded to the college size question.



## Question 27. List of Colleges (See Appendix D)

Comment # 27: The sampling of colleges resulted in a non-duplicated count of 93 out of 108 possible. This translates to an 86% sampling of all public community colleges in California. It should also be mentioned that 66 individual responses were undecipherable or missing on the college identification question. No doubt some of these could have been duplicate counts of colleges already represented, but it is also possible that they be from colleges no representation.

In Appendix D is a complete listing of all public California community colleges and the frequency of individuals from those colleges that participated in the survey.

## Appendix A

## Question 5.

Please list any frequent factors (with a word or short phrase) that in your opinion hinder your efforts in counseling/advising students. (If none, write in "None")

30- minute appointments don't work well
30-minute appointments do not allow ample time to review details
30-minute counseling appointments are too short; however, the time allotted will change
in the fall to 45 or 60 minutes
30-minute intervals for counseling
45-minute appointment system
50% law; we teach on top of counseling
A 30-minute appointment is sufficient for the general student, but often students have
special needs and a longer appointment time is needed. Would like more flexibility and
control over my schedule to meet the needs of students
A language barrier with some students
Access to records
Accessing databases and using various software programs
Additional time for complicated transfer issues
Adjunct status
Administration
Administration has decided that crisis and personal counseling not essential
Administration not interested in innovation, new patterns of service delivery suggested by
faculty
Administrative duties
Administrative respect for importance of counseling staff
Administrative responsibilities
Administrative tasks
Administrative tasks and responsibilities
Administrative work
Administrators expect us to participate in too many committees that are their
responsibilities
All paperwork for school and county completed at first counseling appointment
Amount required paper work involved; e-mail replies impacting workload
Appointment time should be 40-50 minutes
Appointment time to short
Appointments too short
Appointments too short; lack of proper technology, e.g., transcripts, student history,
session notes
Appt time too short. Drop in advising not sufficient. Not enough time to explore.
Articulation
Articulation issues
As a counselor/director, I have administrative duties that take considerable time

Appendix A, Question 5 (continued)
As a specialty re-entry counselor I spend 45 minutes which is what I feel is expected for
As a specialty re-entry counselor, I spend 45 minutes which is what I feel is essential for all general counseling for new students
Assessment results
ASSIST needs to include private colleges
ASSIST not working
Assisting students, i.e., need up to the minute training
Availability of student records
Availability of technical support
Availability of transcripts and records
Back—to-back counseling
BANNER, the college's computer system, makes frequent errors in GPA calculation and probation status. I spend too much time recalculating these. BANNER was not designed
to meet the needs of community college students
Basic skill course offerings
Being required to do clerical tasks such as looking up closed classes for students and
checking pre-requisites
Booked back-to-back with students
Breakdown in communication
Budget constraints
Budget constraints imposed by the district office not the president of the college
Budget cuts
Budget cuts
Budget cuts
Budget cuts, lack of resources, lack of training
Budgetary constraints of the department
Budgeting
Bureaucracy at 4 -year colleges
Bureaucratic procedures
Bureaucratic red tape; prerequisite verification
Can use more staff support
Cannot access information
Career counseling requires more than 30 minutes
Case load
Changes in computer programs
Changes in major requirements
Changes in transfer guidelines. Inconsistencies
Changing information
Classroom preparations
Clerical functions
Combined administration/counseling position
Committee work takes time away from seeing students
Committees
Communication with disability students
Communication with allocating statements

Appendix A, Question 5 (continued)
Compressed time during hours recistantian and 1
Compressed time during heavy registration periods  Computer down
Computer limitations
Computer problems
Computer problems
Computer problems
Computer problems
Computer registrations problems
Computer system can be a problem
Computer system down or very slow
Confusion by the students
Constant interruptions, even when in private appointments
Constantly having to justify existence; no time for other activities (all student contact)
Cooperation between the transfer and counseling centers
Counseling services directly to the student have diminished because counselors have
become quasi-administrators on release projects, conferences, meetings with little to no
student contact time. Also more counselors teaching and need preparation time
Counseling space is not private
Counseling space is not private
Counseling students on financial aid takes longer
Counselor to student ratio
Counselor/student ratio
Counselor/student ratio too high
Counselor/student ratios are too high; poor intake/screening; release time for special but
necessary projects
Course availability; forms
Course substitutions
Cubicle setup
Currently, the kinks in PEOPLESOFT take much too long to do what EDEN could do in
almost half the time
Data collection for administration. Management micro-managing
DATASET, teaching faculty agendas, student commitment
DATATEL (difficult to navigate)
Demand for information, not enough counselors to see everyone in a timely manner
Depending upon the situation sometimes not having enough time to spend with the
student can cause some difficulties
Disconnection
Distractions 500/
Double duty: 50%international and 50% general; rather be 100% one or the other.
Drop-in counseling is 20-minute sessions and that often is not enough time
Drop-in system with variable times depending on need
Due to restructuring, students are having difficulty accessing correct counseling services,
poorly-trained clerical staff

### Appendix A, Question 5 (continued)

During peak times, spending quality time with the new student is crucial. At times, I feel this is not done because of lack of coverage during these peak times

During registration periods, it is very difficult to give students the time they need

During summer no appointments

Dysfunctional computer software/hardware

Each student I see has a documented economic and educational disadvantage. In addition, at each session students will present additional educational barriers for consideration such as work schedules, child care, or transportation problems

Easily accessible articulations, multiple needs of students, e.g., personal crisis issues

Email responses

EOPS requires minimum of 3 contacts. Not enough hours in the semester

Equipment breakdowns, clerical support

Evaluation of other college transcripts

Excessive caseload

Excessive number of forms

External noise

External transcripts

Extra duties

Extra responsibilities

Factors beyond which I have no control

Financial aid, excessive unit petitions

Finding student's record

For general counseling, it's the time factor. 30-minute appointments are not enough to get to know the student and develop an educational plan

Frequent interruptions

Frequently asked to do other tasks and maintain "student's first" approach. There is never enough time to do it all

Front office staff

Funding

Funding for hiring new counselors to meet the demands of our students

General questions from outside calls referred to me while in session

General registration 5 minutes with students

Good program to override English and math classes. Also, transcript retrieval is too slow. Some university has poor articulation or database on ASSIST software.

Grant writing

Having access to a transcript evaluator

High demand during peak periods, no show appointments, huge caseloads

High demand, low supply of counselors

High school staff sees community colleges as inferior, don't advise high school students about preparation

High student/counselor ratio

History of problems with department chairs

### Appendix A, Question 5 (continued)

I am an EOPS counselor/coordinator, so I split my time between administrative activities and seeing students. We serve over 900 students with myself and one other full-time counselor; our 2 part-timers only represent 5 counseling hours total per week

I am asked to do too many special projects

I believe the 30 minute time allotted is the biggest hindrance. When working with probation or disqualified students, more time is needed to really help and establish good and trusting rapport.

I give 30 minutes per session, but EOPS students must see a counselor 3 times each semester

I have other responsibilities. Some students take longer and go over the allotted time.

I work predominantly with CALWORKS students and my physical location is not part of the counseling department. This isolates the students and the services needed

Impossible to use case management methods with that many students

Inability to access all screens on our computer system

Inadequate clerical support to pull files

Inadequate computerized record keeping systems or access to computer information across departments and campuses

Inadequate facility (secure office space)

Inadequate resources for part-timers; No office as a career counselor, must borrow space away from career center resources and am less accessible to "walk-ins." Recently resolved no voice mail for 3 years, students unable to make or change appointments

Inappropriate office

Included in every counseling session is the recording of information about what was accomplished either written or electronic form

Incompetent managers

Incomplete articulation between our college and the universities

Incomplete information from admissions and records

Incomplete information, i.e., transcripts, ASSIST updates

Incomplete or missing student files

Incomplete student files

Incomplete student records

Inefficient computer tracking system

Information access- ASSIST

Information management

Information system data entry

Initial intakes of CALWORKS, EOPS, and DSPS students usually take one hour. After that 30-40 minutes is usually good

Insufficient articulation with 4 -year schools

Insufficient current articulation; students' lack of goal; insufficient time; insufficient career information

Insufficient staffing - thus a high caseload

Insufficient staffing; inadequate facilitation of training

Appendix A, Question 5 (continued)
Insufficient time
Insufficient time 30 minute appointments
Interrupting phone calls
Interruptions
Interruptions
Interruptions
Interruptions by staff and other students
Interruptions during appointments. Lack of leadership and support from administration Interruptions from other students
Interruptions, lack of technology, difficulty reaching other necessary services, lack of
bilingual services  Just walk-in/drop-in
Keeping abreast of all the colleges that decide to make exceptions to statewide policies
Knowledge of transfer majors and requirements
Lack current information on registration
Lack of access to materials, time, support
Lack of access to necessary records such as transcripts, assessment scores
Lack of administrative support
Lack of appropriate academic courses for low-functioning students  Lack of articulation
Lack of articulation with many universities  Lack of articulation with some CSU universities
Lack of background information about students and assessment of non-academic skills
Lack of clerical support
Lack of competent support staff. Non -flexible schedules
Lack of computerized educational plan
Lack of contractual time for me to do academic and career related research on my own
Lack of coordination between admissions and counseling departments
Lack of counseling offices
Lack of counseling resources in a decentralized counseling model
Lack of counseling staff. Counselor/student ratio  Lack of financial support
Lack of history on previous counseling sessions
Lack of leadership. It is difficult to find great deans
Lack of materials, i.e., new software, missing catalogs, appropriate office equipment, clerical/classified respect
Lack of necessary materials, i.e., career and transfer information in the worksite  Lack of office space for part-time counselors, lack of printed articulation material
Lack of placement scores
Lack of prior credit evaluations
Lack of prior credit evaluations  Lack of privacy
Lack of privacy (no real office)
Lack of privacy; poor office setup & space; lack of disability access to my office

Appendix A, Question 5 (continued)
Lack of records
Lack of resources
Lack of resources
Lack of resources
Lack of resources & referral information for community & extended mental health
services
Lack of resources regarding out of state universities
Lack of school commitment
Lack of space
Lack of staff and budget
Lack of student handbook at our campus
Lack of student preparation/screening
Lack of support
Lack of support by administration to implement "penalties" for lack of student
educational plan or for a timely registration follow-up
Lack of support from administration
Lack of support from administration
Lack of support from the administration to be treated as faculty - not clerks
Lack of support staff
Lack of time
Lack of time always a factor; my contract is 80% articulation and 20% counseling, but
spend large part of articulation time assisting students & counselors with transfer issues
Lack of time for increased numbers of students
Lack of time for information gathering
Lack of time in 30-minute appointments to meet student needs
Lack of time to appropriately counsel during a 30-minute session.
Lack of time to prepare and keep up on email and paperwork
Lack of time to spend with the student
Lack of time with students
Lack of time, documentation
Lack of time, rushed, overwhelmed
Lack of transcripts
Lack of transcripts
Lack of transcripts from other colleges
Lack of updated technology; small office space
Light staffing has a detrimental impact on being able to spend more than 15 minutes with
most students
Limited English speaking skills of student
Limited funding
Limited time
Limited time; high counselor to student ratio
Long lines
Long lines to make an appointment. No phone-made appointments

Appendix A, Question 5 (continued)
Major preparation not available, students late for appointments
Management interference
Meetings
Meetings required by administration
Meetings, budget issues, conferences, workshops
Meetings/other duties to be attended to
Money  Money
More students than time available
More training needed when changes occur
Multiple issues require ability to be more than academic advisor
My appointments are not checked to determine what the student needs, and if he is with
the correct counselor, and if 30 minutes is sufficient
My caseload is approximately 150 students per semester
My college has two part-time personal counselors to provide services for 14,000 students
My schedule is full and students have trouble getting an appointment with me
My workspace is not confidential. I am in an enclosed cubicle without a roof and walls
Need more counselors to most growing number of students entering called
Need more counselors to meet growing number of students entering college
Need more counselors; they cut counselor contract days
Need more help and money Need more time
Need more time per student
Need more time.
Need to service 300 students per day with 6 counselors
New student come to meetings without necessary information
New students need more time - too much to cover
No access to notes from previous counselor
No availability of student records
No central educational plan repository (i.e., no computerized ed plan) so services are
duplicated
No clerical support, need for continued training in technology
No degree evaluation available
No easy accessibility to scores and transcripts
No follow-up time allowed in schedule to complete work for students
No new catalog until after the academic year starts
No office, no phone, no computer, no job security
No prior evaluation of transcripts
No private office
No receptionist

Appendix A, Question 5 (continued)
NT 1
No records
No show appointments
No show appointments, inadequate technology
No shows
No shows
No shows
No time for follow up
No transcript evaluation
No transcripts
No transfer or career center on our satellite campus
No way to communicate with all students
Non-existent articulation agreements
Non-informed students who have not completed orientation
Non-teaching faculty as a phrase misrepresents what we do. Having to see students in
30-minute blocks of time in individual appointments. Not enough counselors hired or
replenished to service the students
Non-typical counseling
Not enough appointment sessions
Not enough appointment time
Not enough counseling hours available to service students adequately
Not enough counselors
Not enough counselors on duty - overloaded
Not enough counselors to meet the many student needs. Not enough office support
Not enough counselors to meet with each student
Not enough counselors to properly serve the student population. Stretched too thin
Not enough counselors to serve on drop-in during peak periods. Time allotted is 10
minutes per student on drop-in. They need more time
Not enough counselors! Not enough time to do all my job duties
Not enough counselors; students are turned away
Not enough coverage for the amount of students
Not enough full time counselors, enough computers, general budget limitations
Not enough funding to offer innovative opportunities for students, e.g. field trips, job
shadowing, speakers, seminars
Not enough hours to see students during peek times
Not enough information about the student provided prior to session
Not enough information as to why students are coming in
Not enough student appointments available
Not enough time

Appendix A, Question 5 (continued)
Not enough time
Not enough time
Not enough time  Not enough time
Not enough time
Not enough time for follow up
Not enough time for new students
Not enough time in a 30-minute session to really counsel students
Not enough time per appointment
Not enough time to be spent with the student
Not enough time to conduct an adequate counseling session
Not enough time to do educational plan and career planning for undecided students
Not enough time to do follow-up or preparation, too many student contact hours
Not enough time to establish rapport. Not enough flexibility to deal with students
Not enough time to follow-up with students
Not enough time to help students with higher need
Not enough time with student
Not enough time with students
Not enough time; lack of resources; student not prepared, e.g., not having transcripts
Not enough time; volume of students
Not enough transfer information
Not having all relevant information right in front of me
Not having enough time; varying policies, not having access to campus officials
Not having enough updated information
Not having funding for positions for personal and crisis counseling
Not having the current articulation courses on ASSIST. Not having evaluation of
transcripts before appointments causes extra time
Not having transcripts from previous institutions available
Not informed of new information from other departments
Note enough time to write notes and do follow up
Nothing other than time
Number of students to see
Obtaining transcripts/records
Occasionally, there are not enough counselors to deal with the crush of students
Office arrangement
Office location
Office shortage and fragmented staff
Office space
Office space
Office space (not enough privacy), cramped conditions in counseling department

Appendix A, Question 5 (continued)
Official transcripts not required at time of admission
Often there are more students than the counselors can serve efficiently
Oftentimes, lack of equipment such as software for career exploration
One-on-one face to face contact counseling with students is essential
Only 30-minute appointments, incongruent computer systems, insufficient articulation
Other assignments
Other assignments, budgets, scheduling staff
Other commitments
Other demands as a faculty member
Other paperwork
Other school transcripts
Our DATATEL system on campus is very cumbersome and not user friendly
Paper work
Paper work
Paperwork
Paperwork
Paperwork, follow-up to problems, repetitions
Paperwork, online educational plan input, office skills, tons of paperwork and computer
notes and recording
Paperwork, PEOPLESOFT, printing of transcripts.
Part-time status!
Peak time overcrowding
PEOPLESOFT transcripts, EPOS requirements
Persons other than counselors advising students
Petitions for everything
Phone calls
Phone calls and e-mail requests when there is no time allotted during the workday to
answer questions and requests for recommendations
Phone calls coming in during appointments
Phone interruptions
Phone interruptions, no clerical assistance
Phone keeps ringing
Politics
Poor articulation
Poor articulation
Poor articulation with colleges/universities
Poor management by dean
Poor mentoring and training regarding school policies/procedures
Poor student information system, computer hardware, weak teaching, lack of funding
Prerequisite checking
Prerequisites
Pressure to see other students who are waiting
Prior in-department screening of students social and academic profile

Appendix A, Question 5 (continu	<u>ed)</u>
Privacy, staff shortage	
Process everything	
Programming	
Push to have educational plan in fil	e without career assessment
Quick access to information	
Reading competency graduation re-	quirement
Ready access to updated information	
Recent budget cuts reduce evening	service by one hour each day. Lack of access to
transfer center, DSPS, EOPS, psycl	nological services & testing for evening students
Reception staff problems	
Record keeping	
Red tape	
Red tape/bureaucracy	
Reduced staff	
Registration demands, students who	need an hour appointment due to number of
transcripts from other colleges	
Reports	
Researching	
Resources	
Run out of time	
Short appointments	
Short staff & no budget	
Shortage of counselors during peak	times
Slow computer, transcripts from oth	ier colleges
Slow internet connections	
Slow SARS program	
Some students need more time, and	some need less. More information obtained when
making the appointment would be u	seful to make the students time most beneficial.
Some students who need help the m	ost don't come in until later in their college career
Sometimes need more time do to ot	her issues; transcripts need to be evaluated
Special projects assigned to counsel	ors with no replacement of the lost counseling hours
Staff inquiries	<u> </u>
Staff of professional development for	ınds
Staffing shortages	
Staying informed	
Stereotypical expectations by the stu	idents as to the services available
Student has multiple transcripts	
Student no shows	
Student no-shows	
Student resistance to seeking help	
	, college computer system problems, difficult
DATATEL system, information ove	rload (i.e., need to check smallest details like
ndividual university policies with A	PT scores)! Lack of funding, budget

Appendix A, Question 5 (continued) Student/counselor ratio Student/counselor ratio Student's lack of awareness Students "ditching" their appointments Students are not required to see a counselor. They see a counselor or attend orientations/workshops to get earlier registration appointments. We do not mandate anything. Students also fail to keep counseling appointments at least half the time Students arriving late Students coming in without transcripts Students' disabilities Students do not show up for appointments Students don't know how much direction/guidance they need. Students don't seek counseling & self-advise poorly Students' expectations about how counseling happens is inaccurate based on their high school experience Students have to make their appointments too far in advance Student's lack of awareness of educational process and lack of goals Students' language barriers (Sign Language, Spanish) Students' last-minute counseling contacts do not allow for good planning and choices are limited then! Students missing correct time of appointment and being late Students most in need of help don't come in; students are not prepared Students' not aware of time and commitment required to be a successful college student Students not keeping appointments Students not prepared for appointments Students not reading the college catalog or schedule before appointments Students not showing up for appointments Students not showing up for appointments Students showing up late Students' unprepared ness students waiting Students who need me before I'm finished with the student that I'm working with Students who want to be seen "right now!" can create difficulties as compared to those who plan ahead and make appointments Students with no idea of their goals Sufficient time Supervising/Training Staff Tardiness or No Show by the students Teaching faculty disrespect for the counseling function Technological dysfunctions. Changes and lack of time and training Technology not working.

Technology: records, transcripts, researching information all has created an increased

need for more time with the student

Appendix A, Question 5 (continued)
Talanhana Intermentiana
Telephone Interruptions  Telephone interruptions
Telephone interruptions
The amount of information to be conveyed is overwhelming and complex. Different
schools have such varied requirements even in the same system
-The complexity of the numerous programs statewide or campus-wide
The computer educational plans
The computer system. Takes more time than hard copy. Cuts time from appointments
The constant flux of transfer information, particularly dealing with San Diego State
The current office setting provides no privacy
The first time we see the student we are given one hour
The lack of time per session
The long, long transcripts on Eden; difficult to obtain and to read
The number of student contacts seem to be more important than the quality of service.
More counselors are needed
The number of students who need to see counselors
The obligation to complete data entry and/or quasi-administrative tasks
The overwhelming amount of information
The rush students get with the usual 30 minute appointments
The sessions are back to back
The UC's and CSU's that don't put major preparation articulation on ASSIST
There is not enough time
There just aren't enough of us.
There needs to be more supplemental counseling classes and support groups. Also more
categorical counselors such as CalWORKS to help students with special needs
This college's 4-day scheduling template limits the opportunities to offer group transfer-
related activities
Time
Time allotted
Time and technology problems
Time and too many other things to do
Time constraints
Time constraints
Time constraints
Time crunches
Time delay on transcript evaluations
Time delays related to accessing student's record of work completed at other post-
secondary institution
Time limitation
Time needed to evaluate outside transcripts that takes time away from student
appointment time
Time so short
Time to do research on new careers
Time too limited

Appendix A Question 5 (continued)
Appendix A, Question 5 (continued)
Time!
Time! Appointments are too short to do an adequate job of helping people
Time, lack of internet access, limited resources
Time, student ability to absorb information, learning disabilities, child care issues, access
to the multitude of college/university information. Not enough time to look for
information on-line while student is in office
Time, student preparation, poor communication storage, ambiguous information from
transfer colleges
Time. Students often must wait to get an appointment
Time. Need contract counselors, not more adjuncts or support staff
Timeliness of information, updated information
To do the educational plan, 70 unit evaluation, six semester map of courses. Agreements
interruptions, placement scores
To have full student transcripts.
To serve on just about every campus committee because "we know". Counselors should
be used more often as consultants for some committees
Too little time for each student's appointment
Too many clerical duties
Too many demands on counselors
Too many job assignments
Too many meetings
Too many meetings
Too many red tapes
Too many students
Too many students and not enough appointments
Too many students for the number of counselors
Too many students for too few counselors
Too many students per counselor, lack of preparation for college
Too many students to see in too few times
Too many students, not enough counselors
Too many students, not enough time/counselors
Too many transcripts to evaluate
Too many varied responsibilities
Too much information at one time
Too much information to cover
Too much paperwork
Too much paperwork to complete
Too much technology
Too-short appointments
Training & updates in counseling issues
Transcript evaluation
Transcript evaluation
Transcript evaluation

Appendix A, Question 5 (continued)
Transcripts frequently not evaluated before the counseling appointment
Transcripts from other colleges not available
Transcripts from previous colleges attended not available
Transcripts not available
Transcripts, new software system
Transcripts/data not available
Transfer & Career resources
Transfer agreements
Transfer from other college
Triage
Unable to locate "other" student transcripts
Unaware that personal counseling is available free
Unclear/inconsistent admissions/registration policies
Undecided about educational objective
Undecided and unprepared students
Undecided on career/education/goals
Undecided students
Understaffed
Unprepared other counselors
Unprepared students
Unrealistic time lines to complete paperwork not directly related to assisting students
Unwillingness of administrators to adequately fund counseling services
Updated forms
Up-to-date articulation agreements
Used to be allotted only 30 minutes. Now have 60, which is much better. The 30 minute
was too little time to give the student my full focus and all of the information he/she
needed.
Useless meetings
Very little support for professional development. To stay current, need to do this on own
time and own resources
Vice Presidents
Volume of demand
Walk in appointments at 15 minutes each
We offer one-hour appointments about half the year and drop in counseling the other
half, which is limiting
Weak career center support, access to outside transcripts
When dealing with an individual who has severe communication difficulty, it can take a
lot longer, and I will have to do a lot more for that individual
When programs holding records won't function
When technology fails, i.e., Can't connect to ASSIST because the server is down. Lack of
articulation information for Southern California schools on ASSIST
With appointment system, sometimes 30 minute session is too short
Work for two different programs

### Appendix B

### Question 7. (Other)

If you were able to increase the services your department provides, in what area would you prefer the greatest help? (Other)

Access and technology
Accurate handouts
Adequate workspace
Adjuncts-computers
Administrative advocacy

Attend conferences

Attrition

Bilingual counselors Bilingual resources Bilingual services

Budgeting Cal works Career

Career assessments
Career counseling
Clinical counseling
Communications skill
Community resources
Computers & paper work
Course substitutions

Datatel /MIS/ DSPS
Department Information
Disability training
Disabled students

Diversity training

Electronic educational plans

**ESL** 

ESL students Evaluation

F-1 visa students Faculty advising Faculty partnerships

Greater help to at-risk students

Health sciences

High school outreach How to enroll

Improved physical facilities

International students

International students International students

Job development

Job market training Job shadowing

Larger budget for computers

Learning disabilities
Less special programs

Less time on special programs

Medical/psychiatric Moral support

More appointment time More bilingual staff More counseling staff More counseling staff More counselors

More counselors More counselors

More counselors available

More counselors
More evening service
More generalist counselors

More industry contact
More quality counselors
More money for counselors

More time for morale building Need more counselors

Non-credit ESL

Non-credit matriculation

Office space
Office space
Office work time
Online counseling
Online responses

On-line training
Orientation
Orientation

Paid meetings, all staff

PeopleSoft

Personal counseling Personal counseling Personal/psychological

Planning Probation

Professional development Psychological services

Re-entry
Re-entry center
Re-entry students
Re-entry students

Research Retention Retention

Retention strategies Retention, follow-up Specialty counseling Supplemental classes

Teaching counseling courses

Teaching of courses

Transcripts Transitions

Transitional programs
Tutoring services

Uniform computer systems

Vocational.

We are understaffed We need more faculty

# **Appendix C**

## Question 23.

Is there anything you wish to share with the counseling task force about your job that was not addressed by this survey? If so, please indicate here. Please provide additional information for consideration in this survey.

About 95% of our students have personal issues interfering with their academic work
Access to ASSIST is very slow
Address more on student study skills
Adjunct counselors are stressed over budget cuts
Adjunct counselors cannot attend counseling department meetings
Adjunct counselors get inadequate training, little respect, & cannot attend conferences
Adjunct counselors have little or no connection with the college – no staff development
Adjunct counselors need a benefits package
Adjunct counselors need clear working spaces where confidentiality is observed
Adjunct counselors see many students but get little recognition or opportunities
Adjunct counselors treated as second-class citizens
Adjuncts have been cut 50%; retirees are not replaced; cuts in matriculation funding
Adjuncts left out of informational loot yet they are expected to know all the regulations
Administration is unaware of what counselors do. Funds have also been slashed
Advanced education students have impacted counselors
Am an articulation officer but am expected to help counselors during peak times
Any survey question needs a context of either regular or peak times
As a counselor, spend 3 hours teaching and another 2 in committees per week
As a DSPS counselor, it seems the generalist is working under dismal time constraints
As an EOPS counselor, we personalize education. Generalists process education
As enrollment increases, colleges may have to cut counselor hours spent teaching
As transfer center director, use group activities unless student referred by counselor
At this college, the student-to-counselor ratio is 3,600 to 1. Mandate a realistic ratio
Athletic counseling should be classified as at-risk like the EOPS model
Banner computer system unable to put hold on probationary students; low priority
Because of multiple assignments, am frustrated by lack of ability to focus on one job
Believe that all counselors should be allowed to form a specialty, e.g., career, transfer
Budget cuts have caused reduced counseling services. Things look bleak
Budget cuts toward adjunct counselors
Burnout from too many appointments with no breaks
By budget cuts, we no longer offer orientations to students. It is now a paper process
CalWorks counseling appointments are usually long due to required paper work
CalWorks counselor meets each student for an hour unlike generalists

Appendix C, Question 23 (continued)
Appendix C, Question 25 (continued)
Campus climate is hostile
Career counseling is individualized; it is difficult to predict number of appointments
Caseloads so high, cannot get ETS/UC/CSU training
Changes in articulation and transfer not communicated quickly enough
Class surveys have revealed that there are many students who never see a counselor
Counseling "average times" should not include counseling of DSPS students
Counseling by adjuncts is more difficult now with all details and technology changes  Counseling faculty need to be on the instructional side of the 50/50 ratio
Counseling hours should provide time for learning latest policies & regulations
Counseling is a vital part of the CalWorks program
Counseling is a wonderful career
Counseling is the first to receive cuts and the last to get additional funding
Counseling is vital for student success. Without it, colleges not able to recruit & retain
Counseling not seen as essential. Their services are one of the first to receive cuts
Counseling services should be located in a central location on campus
Counseling special population students requires additional time & special training
Counseling staff is becoming an outreach & recruitment staff. This is not counseling
Counseling time is not replaced when a counselor is given released time for other work
Counselor contractual days were reduced
Counselors are losing sight of "core function." Too many "other" assignments
Counselors are lumped with all faculty when hiring priorities are established
Counselors are the first to be mentioned in responding to budget cuts
Counselors cannot do flex activities because of involvement with registration
Counselors coming from Master's programs untrained in transfer
Counselors do many "release time" activities that take away from seeing students
Counselors feel vulnerable under the 50% rule; lack of showing us as valuable
Counselors find it difficult to find time for committee assignments
Counselors find it difficult to have non-appointment office hours
Counselors given lower priority in hiring of faculty
Counselors given too many duties outside of counseling which cuts into appointments
Counselors hired as generalists yet are being reassigned to all types of other
assignments. There is no backfill or adjunct replacement of the generalist hours
Counselors must get back to what they are supposed to do, work with students
Counselors need more support staff
Counselors need more training of Scan skills and careers; 80% focus on student
transfer and yet few of our students actually transfer
Counselors need to do a better job with marketing their function to teaching faculty
Counselors not allowed to teach guidance courses as part of regular load
Counselors not respected by administration who believe in expanded paraprofessionals
Counselors perceived as having much free time, so they get asked to be on committees
Counselors should be compensated for department meetings
Counselors should have available an 11 or 12 month contract to meet student needs
Counselors stretched too thin with meeting students and other assignments

Counselors viewed as second-class citizens on campus.  Counselors will have to move in the direction of group activities  Counselors work on special projects but the extra work is not shared  Crisis counseling is becoming more necessary  Cuts in counseling hourly budget  Difficult to do in-depth career counseling  Difficulties are caused by CSU and UC not working in a cooperative manner  Disparity between counseling versus instructional faculty in negotiation representation  Disrespect for counselors by certain teaching faculty impacts student attitudes  District ignores Board policy on counseling function  Does the college effectively assist students with mental health issues?  Dual admission programs will increase counselor workloads.  Evening students need receive the same quality of services as day students  Excessive high school visits; too many special projects; not enough counseling time  Faculty need to be made more aware of what counselors do  Fairness of special counselors who also deal with supervision, budget, and see students  Feeling frustrated because of the constraints imposed by the community college system  Good work by counselors on committees is rewarded by more committee assignments  Graduation requirements should include a career class and an orientation class  I am an educational advisor but am not included in counseling department meetings  I wear too many hats (generalist, articulation, curriculum chair, technical review chair)  If most students received 50-minute appointments, they would only need four per year  Improve services for bilingual students  In 14 years of experience, the role of the counselor has become much more complex  In the past we were allowed to focus on specific majors. Generalists now must do all  Inadequate remedial offerings; increased technology dependent, i.e., e-advising  Inadequate remedial offerings; increased technology dependent, i.e., e-advising  Inadequate poutdated, and uninviting counseling center environment  Inequity between generalist and specialist
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Inequity between generalist and specialist with respect to teaching assignments
Inequity in that part-time counselors not paid the same as full-time per hourly basis
Instructional faculty and administrators do not understand what counselors really do
Instructional faculty are not aware of the full scope of counseling services
Instructional faculty, for the most part, do not support counseling
Insufficient prep time for teaching counseling courses and for follow-up appointments
Is the teaching faculty well informed as to what counselors do?
It is very stressful when students are added on top of a full schedule
Lack of adequate funds to support individual counseling
Lack of administrative support. It has been a fight to get positions approved
Lack of leadership in the counseling department
Lack of support from other faculty and management
Lack of support in local faculty contract
Little equality in load between generalists and special counselors
Major budget cuts have hurt our program

Appendix C, Question 23 (continued)
Mony counciling in the Call in
Many counseling issues are dwarfed by instructional faculty needs and numbers
Many counselors are given released time for projects without being held accountable
Many counselors doing production work; have lost sight of the real counseling purpose
Matriculation and PFE funding often do not fall within student services
Matriculation monies should go to student services, not additional management
May not be able to offer special programs to students with special needs
More counseling faculty  More effective leadership of department of the second
More effective leadership of department so counselors can focus on counseling
More financial support for transfer center and career center staffed by a counselor
Must find a way to properly evaluate counselors who have tenure. There is "deadwood"
Must have 50 minute sessions
Need a common numbering system, common major preparation for CSU and UC
Need a second language
Need adequate funding and facilities for special programs, e.g., matriculation, re-entry Need adequate staffing in special programs to accommodate special needs
Need better working relationshing between goungalors and tooching fearly
Need better working relationships between counselors and teaching faculty  Need bilingual services in Chinese and Vietnamese at front desk
Need clarification of roles between counselors and paraprofessionals
Need continuity in counseling; follow-up, accountability, data on number served
Need cooperation between counseling and teaching faculty regarding assessment, multiple measures, and course placement
Need feedback on effectiveness of different types of orientation delivery
Need for multicultural competency
Need increased funding for direct services to students
Need more counselors
Need more counselors
Need more counselors and a fair budget process
Need more mental health services or referral possibilities
Need more part-time counselors during summers
Need more workshops, e.g., math anxiety, time management, study skills, test-taking
Need newer computers in our offices
Need prep time and end-of-day time to finish earlier transactions
Need programs to decrease drop-outs
Need research to determine the value of counseling
Need standards for on-line counseling
Need statewide guidelines: who can see students; what paraprofessionals allowed to do
Need teaching faculty to do more academic advising and let counselors counsel
Need to address the needs of high school graduates who are under-prepared
Need to be creative with counselor schedules and include evening services
Need to be trained in latest information on substance abuse and psychiatric disorders
Need to determine the percentage of time spent doing on-line counseling & who should
do it, full-time counselors, part-time, or both?
do 15 1611 time comisciols, par-time, or both:

Appendix C, Question 23 (continued)
Need to do a better job of communicating the utility of counselors
Need to do more to insure that students of color are academically successful
Need to focus on depth and quality of counseling – not just the numbers
Need to insure that full-time vacancies and retirees positions are filled
Need transcripts evaluated before counseling, and timely information on new programs
No adjunct pay for more training, e.g., use of computer programs
Non-peak periods is about 4 months per year when students have a walk-in basis
Not all counselors are staying current with the latest transfer information
Not enough counselors for the changing population. Students are not prepared
Not enough counselors; not enough technical support; deans seem not to understand
Not enough hours to meet student needs, especially during evening and weekends
Not enough time to do everything needed; thus we put in our own hours without pay
Not sufficient staff to accommodate all the special needs of students
Not sufficient support from administration
On-line counseling is increasing. Need to define parameters of how we respond
Only a few of us see general students. Too many counselors are in special programs
Only make appointments 6 months of the year; rely upon adjunct during summers
Our college has decided to make drastic cuts to student services
Part-time faculty should have priority when there is a full-time position opening
Ratio of students to counselor in general counseling is inadequate
Records evaluation function should be staffed so that incoming transcripts can be
evaluated before a student sees a counselor
Registration demands as per 1-1 counseling is limited
Responses to this survey apt to vary for specially funded programs and with satellites
See immense difference in quality of parents and children's lives due to counseling
Some at-risk students may need more than one hour, and more than 3 visits
Some counseling assignments include a mandatory 20% teaching load
Special programs are good; general counseling in inadequate
Specialist counselors have much more flexibility than general counselors
Specialty counselors have more flexibility in setting schedules / times for appointments
Started using advising specialists; counselors put in small hiring pool as instructors
Students and faculty need more awareness of the benefits of counseling services
Students are not encouraged by their instructors to seek services of counselors
Students are not prepared and have tremendous social problems
Students are required to wait 3 –4 weeks for an appointment
Students need individual one-on-one appointments
Students need to know the long-term impact of doing poorly the first semester
Students that are undecided or change majors more than twice need a career class.
Students who frequent counselors the most perform academically better
Support services for counseling in special programs is very poor
Teaching faculty need to become more aware of counselor roles
Teaching faculty think counselors offer non-essential services until a crisis emerges
The 30-minute student appointment is inadequate
The administration does not see counseling as essential. Our ratio is 2,000 to 1.

Appendix C, Question 23 (continued)
The administration needs to support the standards & practices of sourceling
The administration needs to support the standards & practices of counseling programs  The number of unpaid hours per week is 10 (completing paperwork, follow-up)
The budget cut eliminated our Transfer Center
The budget cut eminiated our Transfer Center  The budget players big role in what kind of gornings are smiletly since the sinc
The budget plays a big role in what kind of services are available given more students  The counseling department just split into four departments. Now 10 counselors are
doing the work of 30+. The stress is tremendous.
The counseling job requires much more than advising
The cutting of matriculation funds has impacted the service to students
The degree-audit system is cumbersome, hard to read, and valid only for natives
The demands of articulation are daunting demanding more and more time
The problem of counselors working consistently while some tend to avoid students
The relationship between counseling-faculty and instructional-faculty needs addressing
The shift in running colleges like corporate institutions undermines services
The statewide system does not provide any support for career counseling
The students today have many more personal and social problems
The teaching of counseling/guidance courses is critical to the counseling function
The work by counselors (workshops, orientation, committees) limits 1-1 counseling
There are efforts to hire only hourly counselors. Counselors seen as expendable
There are many in-house policies/procedures that hinder student academic success
There are matriculation budget cuts but counselors get increased responsibilities
There are times when students may have to wait 2-4 weeks for appointments
There has been no replacement of counselors who retired or lost in some other manner
There is a movement toward not filling counselor positions - replacing with classified
There is a shortage of counselors which is a result to inadequate funding
There is a two-tiered faculty system: those protected by the 50% law, and those not
There is burn-out and not enough counselors to do what we should to serve students
There is insufficient support of counselors from clerical staff
There is pressure to see large numbers of students in a short amount of time
There was not option for the Puente Project in the special program category
This campus has laid off all part-time counselors yet our students increased by 10%
This college is not implementing the matriculation guidelines about educational plans
Too few counselors seeing students; many given extra assignments like outreach
Too little clerical support
Too much assignment to other duties that take time away from counseling
Transfer Centers need more staffing, especially so with huge college enrollments
Tutoring services on campus are inadequate
Very much concerned about using educational advisors at my campus
Very unsupportive administration (VP of student services, & college president)
We emphasize transfer but need more career help with undecided students
We have a ratio of 50% adjuncts to 50% full-time. The full-time work 35 HPW
We need a 900 – 1 ratio; more counselors, more academic advisors
We need to get on the positive side of 50% rule. College is cutting counseling hours
We talk about diversity but do not address adequately serving ESL students
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### Appendix C, Question 23 (continued)

We waste too much time on athletes when they should not have special benefits

Wheel chairs can get into office but then door cannot be closed

When can counselors stop defending their discipline? Where is 75% vs. 25% ratio?

While teaching faculty positions get filled, it is difficult to hire more counselors

Why is it (in the survey) that disabilities are not included with special populations?

With a teaching assignment, the student-counselor time is impacted

With budget cuts, our services have been reduced. Calls from mad parents & students

With over 4,000 counseling appointments, the contract days were cut from 215 to 195

With such high numbers of students, not able to do quality counseling with them

Without counseling support, students will not achieve their educational objectives

# Appendix D

# Question 27. List of 108 Community Colleges and Counts of Participation in Survey

College Name	N
Alameda	0
Allan Hancock	6
American River	29
Antelope Valley	5
Bakersfield	13
Barstow	1
Butte	9
Cabrillo	11
Cañada	3
Canyons	0
Cerritos	13
Cerro Cosa	1
Chabot	1
Chaffey	6
Citrus	6
Coastline	5
Columbia	0
Compton	1
Contra Costa	5
Copper Mountain	3
Cosumnes River	13
Crafton Hills	5
Cuesta	9
Cuyamaca	6
Cypress	8
DeAnza	7
Desert	12
Diablo Valley	3
East Los Angeles	0
El Camino	8
Evergreen	1
Feather River	0
Foothill	7
Fresno	16
Fullerton	10
Gavilan	0
Glendale	3
Golden West	5
Grossmont	14

College Name	
College Name Hartnell	N
	7
Imperial Valley Irvine Valley	_
Lake Tahoe	1
	1
Laney Las Positas	1
Lassen	1
Long Beach	13
Los Angeles City	1
Los Angeles Harbor	4
Los Angeles Mission	3
Los Angeles Pierce	0
Los Angeles Southwest	0
Los Angeles Trade Tech	0
Los Angeles Valley	5
Los Medanos	7
Marin	1
Mendocino	3
Merced	1
Merritt	1
Mira Costa	4
Mission	5
Modesto	1
Monterey	2
Moorpark	6
Mt. San Antonio	14
Mt. San Jacinto	5
Napa Valley	1
Ohlone	11
Orange Coast	8
Oxnard	4
Palo Verde	1
Palomar	3
Pasadena	17
Porterville	0
Redwoods	5
Reedley	0
Ro Hondo	6
Riverside	6

College Name	_ N
Sacramento	9
Saddleback	10
San Bernardino Valley	0
San Diego City	5
San Diego Mesa	5
San Diego Miramar	6
San Francisco	19
San Joaquin Delta	0
San Jose	4
San Mateo	7
Santa Ana	11
Santa Barbara	8
Santa Monica	5
Santa Rosa	14
Santiago Canyon	3
Sequoias	15
Shasta	6
Sierra	9
Siskiyous	1
Skyline	4
Solano	1
Southwestern	12
Taft	1
Ventura	2
Victor Valley	11
Vista	2
West Hills	7
West Los Angeles	3
West Valley	5
Yuba	0
Undecipherable/Missing	66
Total	649

# Appendix E

## **Original Questionnaire**

1. In your normal work schedule, what actual (not necessarily the contractual) percentage of your time is spent providing direct/or related counseling/advisement to students? (Note: related could be use of phones, writing letters, attending staff meetings). Do not include release/reassigned time assignments.

Response: Percent 5%-100%

2. What percentage of your time is spent as a general counselor and/or specialty counselor (e.g., athletics, veterans, EOPS, CalWorks, DSPS)?

Response:

<u>2A</u>. Specialty Counselor: Percent <u>2B</u>. General Counselor: Percent

3. What is the amount of minutes you are allotted for a typical one-session student appointment (to the nearest 5 minutes):

Response: 5minutes to more than 90 minutes

4. What is the amount of minutes you believe to be necessary for a typical one-session student appointment (to the nearest 5 minutes):

Response: 5minutes to more than 90 minutes

5. Please list any frequent factors (with a word or short phrase) that in your opinion hinder your efforts in counseling/advising students. (If none, write in "NONE")

Response: text field

6. In your opinion, does your college provide sufficient funds for your continued professional development? (In your answer consider factors such as conferences, workshops, and special programs)

Response:

Definitely Yes Mostly Yes

Not Sure

Mostly No

Definitely No

Question not applicable

7. If you were able to increase the services your department provides, in what area would you prefer the greatest help? (Select all that apply)
Response:     Articulation     Athletes     Enroll in a class(es)     More clerical support     Multiculturalism     Personal crisis training     Special Programs     Supplies     Technical Support     Technology Training     Training in career counseling     Transfer     Veterans     Other: text box
8. Do you have direct access to a computer that provides quick access to ASSIST? (If the answer is "no," go to question 10)
Response: Yes No
9. If so, what percentage of time do you use ASSIST?
10. In your opinion, have you received or are you receiving training in the technology designed to facilitate your job?
Response: Yes, very adequate Yes, but inadequate No
11. Do you have an American Disability Act "approved" office space?

Response: Yes

No Not Sure

12. Is your office wheel-chair accessible?
Response:
Yes
No
Not Sure
13. In your opinion, does your department make "reasonable efforts" to ensure that all probationary students participate in counseling?
Response:
Yes
Often
Not often
No
14. In your opinion, does your department make "reasonable efforts" to ensure that all students that have not declared a specific educational goal participate in counseling or counseling workshops/classes to assist them in the process of selecting an educational goal?
Response:
Yes
Often
Not often
No
15. In your opinion, does your department make "reasonable efforts" to ensure that all students who are enrolled in pre-collegiate basic skill courses participate in counseling or advisement?
Response:
Yes
Often
Not often
No
16. In your opinion, do you receive training to provide accurate program and transfer requirements to student?
Response:
Yes, very adequate
Yes, but inadequate
No

17. Does your college have a policy statement that mentions support for the counseling function on your campus?
Response:
Yes
No
Not Sure
18. Do you believe that the support staff in your counseling department is sufficient to meet the needs of counselors and students?
Response:
Yes
No
Not Sure
19. Do you believe that the counseling faculty to student ratio on your campus is sufficient to meet the needs of students?
Response:
Yes
No
Not Sure
20. Are students at your college generally able to get an appointment with you within 5 working days?
Response:
Yes
No
Not Sure

21. How many one-appointment sessions do you think a general student should have with a counselor within an academic year? (Omit summer session)
Response:
None
Oné
Two
Three
Four
Five
Six
Seven
Eight
Nine
ten
More than ten
22. How many one-appointment sessions do you think a special program or at-risk student should have with a counselor within an academic year? (Omit summer session)
Response:
None
One
Two
Three
Four
Five
Six
Seven
Eight
Nine
ten
More than ten
23. Is there anything you wish to share with the counseling task force about your job that was not addressed by this survey? If so, please indicate here. Please provide additional information for consideration in this survey.
Response: text field

### **Personal Information**

### 24. Your status:

Response:

Full-time Part-time

# 25. Years of Service

Response: numeric field

# 26. Demographics

Response:

College Size	Name
1 to 4999	Very Small
5000 to 10575	Small
10576 to 18480	Medium
18481 plus	Large
Undetermined	Undetermined

# 27. Your college: