

## AARC Scorecard and Counselor to Student Ratio

February 2013

Major themes:

the basis for the metrics in counseling is in Seymour Campbell Act, however it does not specify what those will be. It is clear that the counselors would prefer the metric to be a ratio of counselors to students. The metric once created will be part of the ARCC report. There are new data elements that are out for review. There is discussion in the Counselor Advisory Group about the difference between advisors and counselors that appears to be controversial in terms of how to count toward a counselor metric. Both groups are different employee groups, however, in some schools advisors may provide some aspects of counseling. Bottom line, all colleges will want credit for what they do to support student learning, but there is a major difference between a counselor and an advisor. Advisors will not count toward the counseling metric.

It is recommended that all colleges carefully review the new ARCC scorecard.

The counselor metric in ARCC will be based on FTEF regardless of difference in contract hours.

There was much discussion about the development of a counselor ARCC formula that accurately reflects a counselor count. One variation of the formula is sum of student headcount based on data mart divided by the sum of FTE (does not include EOPS and DSPS). Later questions challenged the notion of including EOPS and DSPS students in the total headcount.

There was also much discussion of FON and the fact that in some districts counselors teach as much as they counsel or more. Counselors currently counted in the FON. Should they be counted in two places? Do counselors that teach counseling classes count on the instructional side of the 50 percent law? You get the drift, not easy to come up with a metric that tells it all.

Also, how would you count reassigned time? Many counselors are reassigned to special programs like Puente, FYE, Project Success and coordinator roles. Where should this FTE count in the metric.

And what about non credit counselor FTE? Where should it count?

What you can take away from my notes is that one, we will have a counselor metric, two, how this is going to be refined is political.

regards

Francisco