**Proposal to Academic Senate from Embedded / Program Counselors**

**Objective:**

Our request is to add two voting academic senate seats to assure there is equitable representation of the embedded counselors that advocate for our most vulnerable and marginalized student populations, especially because embedded counselors will not be able to serve in a counseling role through the counseling division.

**Who we represent and advocate for (number of counselors):**

Student Success & Retention Services –

First Year Experience (1),

Puente/ LEAD(1),

UMOJA (1),

IMPACT AAPI (1)

https://www.deanza.edu/ssrsc/

International Students Program (2)

https://www.deanza.edu/international/

English Performance Success – including Adult Ed consortium (3)

https://www.deanza.edu/languagearts/eps-counselors/index.html

Math Performance Success (3)

https://www.deanza.edu/mps/

Men of Color (2)

https://www.deanza.edu/mc2/

College Promise / Outreach (6)

https://www.deanza.edu/outreach/

Career Training (2)

https://www.deanza.edu/career-training/

Veterans (1)

https://www.deanza.edu/veterans/

REACH (1)

https://www.deanza.edu/reach/

Biological, Health & Environmental Sciences (1)

https://www.deanza.edu/bhes/our-counselors.html

Total of 25 counselors

Since 2016, the embedded counselors have worked together in cross collaboration and bimonthly meetings to share best practices and resources in support of the students. The cross-campus collaboration and communication has helped spread awareness of these programs to our instructional faculty and staff.

The embedded program areas are intentionally structured to ensure students are supported throughout their academic journey. As embedded counselors dedicated to specific program areas, we have the firsthand insight into the ongoing issues and realities that impact our students.

This grouping of counselors largely represents our students of color and provide daily direct service to our target equity populations. We have served thousands of students that are not only in the most vulnerable communities based on race/ethnicity, but also non-traditional college students, returning students, international and first-generation college students. Our counselors' voices are important in reaching the goal of equity and social justice for disproportionately impacted students.