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Research exercise: Adjuncts: Part Time, Full Awareness

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Adjuncts: Part Time, Full Awareness

Carrie Rogan

Advisor: Michele M. Welkener

Problem: -There is little known about the large and diverse population of Adjuncts (Townsend & Twombly, 2007).
 -Adjuncts report a lack of outreach and that they often discover information after having needed it (Meixner, Kruck & Madden, 2010).
 -Support exists for Adjuncts but can originate from several different departments or campuses and can conflict or become outdated.

Plan: A resource (paper copy handout or electronic version with links) was proposed to a Sinclair Community College Learning Center as a way to streamline their multiple supports for adjuncts.

Rationale: The resource would provide adjuncts with easy access to important, concise information. Communication with Adjuncts is essential and affects their organizational identification (Roueche, 1996). A systems approach advocates aligned resources (Smith, 2007).

Recommended Components to Support Adjuncts

Limitations: Different schools may have different needs. The resource would need yearly revision.

Contacts



Adjunct Support Services
 Disability Services
 Information Number
 Operations
 Book Store
 Administrative Assistants
 Security

On-going Tasks



Complete: Orientation
 Certification/training
 Attend: Professional Development
 Department meetings
 Email: Syllabi to department
 Grades: Submit on time

Classroom/Teaching



Department Guidelines
 Retention Plan
 Students benefit from:
 -timely feedback
 -student-centered teaching
 Behavior Concerns: ombud

College Resources



Websites- college, offices, departments
 Adjunct handbook
 Calendar
 Mail/phone information
 Copying
 Parking

Profession



Benefits: financial, promotion, materials, health, tuition
 Connect with Colleagues:
 teaching circles, community sites, adjunct directory
 Larger Conversation: teaching and content websites, significant readings, professional journals

Meixner, C., Kruck, S.E. & Madden, L.T. (2010). Inclusion of part-time faculty for the benefit of faculty and students. *College Teaching*, 58, 141-147. Taylor & Francis Group

Roueche, J.E. (1996). Identifying the strangers: Exploring part-time faculty integration in American community colleges. *Community College Review*, 23 (4), 33-48. Sage Publications.

Smith, V.C. (2007). A systems approach to strategic success with adjunct faculty. *New Directions for Community Colleges*, 140, 55-66. Wiley.

Townsend, B. & Twombly, S. (2007). Community college faculty: Overlooked and undervalued. *ASHE Higher Education Report*, 32(6). San Francisco, CA: Wiley.