The meeting of the Student Services Planning Council was called to order by Joseph L. Madrigal, Chair, at 9:35 a.m. on March 26, 2003, in the Oak Room of the temporary dining facilities.

I. Approval of Minutes – March 19, 2003 Meeting

The minutes of the March 19, 2003 meeting were approved as submitted.

II. Recommended Repeal of BP 403.2- 1st Reading

Herman Lee, Director of Enrollment Services, explained the Ed Code provisions related to the possible waiver of fees for students under the age of 18 attending high school. He summarized the history of the policy of Palomar College and argued that the college is in a different situation as a result of budget considerations than we were in the mid-1980’s. Mr. Lee proposed the college no longer waive enrollment fees for these students and suggested there were as many as 1,100 students enrolled that might be impacted by the new policy.

Following several questions related to determining specifically who would be affected and the availability of financial aid, it was decided to bring this proposal back to the Student Services Planning Council for a 2nd reading.

Mr. Madrigal encouraged the ASG representative to take this issue to the students for feedback.

III. Considerations for Budget Reductions Fiscal Year 2003/04 – Student Services – 2nd Reading

Mr. Madrigal, Vice President of Student Services, distributed updated and revised documents detailing and explaining the proposed budget reduction strategies recommended by managers in Student Services. The first document, “Considerations for Budget Reductions—Restricted and Unrestricted,” detailed revised total cuts for both areas. He mentioned that there will also be changes in counseling services at Camp
Pendleton. Specifically, the counselor which is presently providing 100% services to Camp Pendleton will be assigned 25% to Camp Pendleton and the remaining 75% to other sites in the District for 2003/04. He stated that he was involved in discussions with John Woods, Director of Athletics, regarding the possibility of additional cuts in that area. He reported that because of a reduction in summer tutorial hours, contracts for full time staff in the Tutorial Program may also be considered for reduction. Any reduction of contracts for classified employees must be negotiated with the CCE/AFT representative group. Lynda Halttunen, Interim Dean of Counseling, asked that the documents be edited to more accurately reflect a counseling budget reduction of $300,000 from hourly funds that were transferred to restricted accounts in DSP&S and EOP&S. Mr. Madrigal indicated that this revision would be made.

The second document distributed, “Budget Reduction Plan,” provided updated and detailed information (impact of proposal, amount of savings, and how the savings would be achieved) related to the proposed changes in each area of Student Services.

Mr. Madrigal announced that there will be a special Student Services Planning Council meeting on April 2, 2003 for the purpose of giving the Student Services Planning Council members additional time to discuss these matters with their constituencies and offer feedback.

Mr. Madrigal addressed a number of questions from Student Services Planning Council members and guests regarding the current budget situation, the proposed cuts, and the next fiscal year budget situation. Several comments were offered challenging the equality and fairness of the proposed cuts. It was suggested that the majority of cuts were targeting classified positions, no administrative positions were being cut, and that some areas appeared to receive a disproportionate amount of cuts than other areas. Mr. Madrigal assured the group that every area was given the same attention and the process of examining the budget of each area was applied equally and fairly utilizing the criteria previously adopted. He reiterated that the proposals from each planning council will be continually evaluated as more information becomes available. He announced that all managers proposing budget cuts for 2003/04 will be asked to develop priorities to guide how programs and positions will be reestablished should additional funds become available.

Mr. Madrigal encouraged the Student Services Planning Council members to continue to examine the documents provided, and to maintain discussions with their respective constituents and with their managers to assure they are fully informed and that all questions are answered.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.