

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

May 13, 2014

TO: CEDHH Advisory Committee
Wade Terry, Chair

Dear Mr. Terry,

I have received calls from CEDHH Board members expressing concern about a full-time position in student services which does not require that a candidate be proficient in ASL; however, the 60% position (20 hours a week) does state a preference for ASL fluency.

Obviously, this "concern" was brought to the advisory council by CEDHH staff. Once again, I must point out to everyone that this college spends at least \$700,000 an academic year serving deaf students. In the fall there were approximately 20 students; in the spring the enrollment dropped to 17.

I may be mistaken, but I am guessing that this "concern" was brought forward by one or two self-serving staff members who find it in their best interest to have a full-time counseling position requiring ASL. As I pointed out to Maura Maguire and Harvey Corson, approximately 70% of our students with disabilities are NOT deaf. Currently, the staff/ student ratio for the CEDHH program is 1:3, on a good day.

In the past, there have been suggestions that CEDHH might have more students and prosper if located at a different campus. Since the CEDHH staff appear to be unhappy at Northwestern; and since, in the staff's opinion and that of the advisory council, we do not do enough for deaf students, I encourage the staff and the advisory council to find another community college to host the program.

Sincerely,



Barbara Douglass, Ph.D.
President

CC: CEDHH Staff
Dean Bouffard

ATTACHMENT "C"