"Floating Counselors"

No stipend or housing arrangements are necessary for compensation or incentive.

We will not propose a ceiling on the number of counselors. We hope to see a rather large body to better distribute the work of comprehensive counseling.

Selection in the traditional sense will become unnecessary. It will largely be through self-selection. All components of the rather rigorous training program must be completed. There will be self-evaluation and peer evaluation.

The "floating counselors" are not seen to be a permanent or "separatist" body, but as an organized attempt to bridge the gap between the counseling needs of Asian freshmen and the services now offered. This body will not only bridge the gap between needs and services but will also serve to improve the organizations which will be offering these services on a more permanent basis. The mechanism for realizing this will be jointly proposed by the "floating counselors" and the other organizations.

The relationship between the "floating counselors" and MPC's will be worked out more clearly once we delineate the mechanisms by which the "floaters" and MPC's will be working towards merging the "floating counseling" program and the MPC program.

Coordination: a) Faculty-administrator charged with the development of programs for Asian Americans. Should possess a detailed knowledge and experience in the concerns of Asian students.

b) An undergraduate chosen by AASA to sit on SSP Board of Directors with the specific charge of coordinating the program along with the Faculty-administrator.

Responsibilities of the Coordinators: The two coordinators will be responsible for the day-to-day functioning of the program and for "representing" the program at administrative and other such meetings. They are responsible for developing the program with input from the "floaters" and other concerned groups. They hold the primary responsibility along with the executive board of the MPC's to develop all the possible mechanisms for merging the programs: joint activities, cross-cultural sensitivity training, monitoring, ensuring working together, etc.

Assignment: All Asian freshmen will have both an MPC and an Asian "floater". Those freshmen who are assigned an Asian MPC will not have an Asian "floater."

Training: Reading and discussions of readings. These will highlight the different issues involved: sensitivity to all Asian nationalities and Eurasians, concept of Asian community, different backgrounds and "types" of Asians, Third World concept and issues. There will be training in counseling techniques to be used in the context of Asian counselees. Self and peer evaluation. Three parts:

Spring '79: (1 day) orientation, delineation of responsibilities, discussion, reading and discussion.

Fall '79: (2-3 days) discussion, discussion of summer readings, counseling techniques, evaluation, assignment of counselees, project planning.

Midyear: (1 day) evaluation, training.

Meetings during year: discussion of cases, referral, program generating, coordination with MPC and other SSP
Whereas the "floating counselor" program and Minority Peer Counseling program both recognize:

- That the particular counseling needs of the various third world communities need to be fully met
- That a sense of solidarity between third world communities at Brown must be created and nurtured.

the following steps should be taken with regard to coordinating the two counseling programs.

- Floating counselor system, like the MPC program, is subordinate to the overall coordination of the SSP.
  - A minority counseling committee consisting of coordinators of FC's, MPC's, and SSP directors to meet a month to:
    - coordinate monitoring report on organizational development.

- Training: Spring- sand (AASA/LASO)"specialists" to MPC retreat, readings, and encourage FC's to attend.
  - Fall - some MPC involvement particularly in TW issues
    - Joint Fall Retreat - cross-cultural sensitivity

- Require/encourage FC and MPC's to host each other to events sponsored by their respective ethnic groups

- Co-sponsor events: 1 per semester

- Readings and discussion groups periodically in small groups

- Joint evaluation of both programs at the SSP level.