

REVIEWS

STUDENT TO STUDENT COUNSELING — AN APPROACH TO MOTIVATING

By William Brown. Austin, Texas: University of Texas Press, 1972.
Pp. 301.

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In this well-written book Brown, a professor of educational psychology at Southwest Texas State University, describes a student-counseling-student approach that has evolved out of an eighteen-year program of testing and counseling research. Although Brown primarily discusses student-counseling-student at the college level one is able to relate, with relatively little effort, how this approach could be utilized at other academic levels.

Brown describes, in great detail, a vocationally and academically oriented counseling program in which students are given specific counseling responsibilities. Although Brown denotes certain personal areas (home, emotional, religious) as being concerns for student counselors, he spends most of the time in his book discussing the student counselors' responsibilities in the vocational and educational areas. The absence of a definitive statement or training program regarding the student counselors' role in working with people who have personal problems is probably the most disappointing aspect of Brown's book.

Brown specifically describes the student counselors' responsibilities in curriculum orientation, academic adjustment and improvement counseling, survival orientation, test interpretation, study habits evaluation and study skills counseling, reading improvement instruction, subject matter tutoring, educational planning counseling, and vocational counseling. The training (40 hours) and highly structured approach provided by Brown to the student counselors appears to enable them to function quite effectively and efficiently. This is substantiated by a number of research projects described at length by Brown in chapter four.

Brown's interesting and stimulating book on student-counseling-student appears to be a valuable resource for counselors interested in getting students actively involved in an academic or vocational oriented counseling program. The preventative, developmentally oriented, structured program described by Brown could be used as a model for counselors who are interested in initiating this type of program in schools.