Student Success Committee Meeting

9:00 AM November 16, 2012 NCSOSE Conference Room, Innovative Research Park

Present: Jane Dane', Todd Johnson, Terri Matthews, David Metzger, Worth Pickering, Carol Simpson, Don Stansberry, Mary Swartz, Rusty Waterfield, Sandy Waters, Johnny Young.

Assessment of Student Initiatives

Worth Pickering distributed and reviewed a matrix of the various first-year programs (learning communities; first-year seminar/orientation; early alert grades; mentor program; tutoring; service learning; and residence hall programs) and assessment tools that are being used or have been used at ODU (student voices; end of program/course evaluations; surveys; trait inventories; institutional records; direct measures of student learning). Worth suggested that institutional records like retention and graduation rates are performance indicators that may tell us there is a problem but do not indicate what the problem is. For that we need to use one of the other assessment tools. Discussion followed. It was noted that while program assessments are conducted, the data is not shared with faculty and others. It was suggested that this information be shared at a forum. Worth will develop one-page executive summaries of the data his office compiles, for sharing with others. Worth will present a report on the NSSE data results at the January 17, 2013 meeting. Worth reported briefly on e-portfolios, which include LiveText used in the College of Education, Blackboard, and Google Docs. Brief discussion followed.

Sandy Waters commented on Noel-Levitz data showing that we are losing students from 150 miles or more. She, Jane Dane' and Scott Harrison will research why we are losing these students; then an assessment program will be developed.

Major Map Progress

Terri Matthews reported that Lisa Mayes is working with Health Sciences on their major map.

Sub-Committee Updates Freshman

Don Stansberry reported that the Freshman committee met earlier this week and reviewed financial and academic data. Although freshmen seminar is no longer offered, there are several classes that only freshmen attend that capture approximately 800 freshmen. Working with the faculty of these classes, we could accomplish what freshmen seminar accomplished. The committee is reviewing best practices from other schools and developing our own best practices for ODU. The committee is working on engaging students in something and identifying what we can try to have in existence, what we would like to have and how we would track this. The committee will focus on 3 major issues: service learning, learning communities, and FIGs-Freshmen Interest groups, Orientation.

Sophomore

David Metzger reported that this committee is considering developing a learning community for sophomores and are pioneering this semester a special section of ENGL 211 that focuses on career development and major selection. This course will help students meet the goals they have identified in a major that reflects their particular talents and strengths. Terri Matthews reported that a MATH 102 course is being proposed for students who are struggling with math. This course will have a required supplemental instruction component.

CRM

Jane Dane' reported that this committee continues to work with Hobson's Retain CRM.

Retention

Sandy Waters reported that this committee is considering re-defining our student classification structure; currently, 26 credit hours is the point at which each student becomes a sophomore. At many other state institutions, students become a sophomore at 30 credit hours. The committee will explore the impact changing this procedure would have on financial aid and other policies at ODU.

Holds

Rusty reported that this committee will develop a calendar of deadlines and criteria for eliminating and consolidating holds. This committee is refining requirements for an online one-stop view and distributed copies of examples of one-stop shop views in web portals at Abilene Christian University, University of Minnesota, George Washington University, Arizona State University, and Illinois State University. Discussion followed. Each of these portals offers a quick view of a student's information, such as student account balance, holds, enrolled courses, GPA and academic standing, major, financial aid awards, etc. Brief discussion followed.