

Student Success Committee Meeting

9:00 AM January 18, 2013

Koch Hall Board Room

Present: Jane Dane', Todd Johnson, David Metzger, Ellen Neufeldt, Carol Simpson, Don Stansberry, Mary Swartz, Rusty Waterfield, Sandy Waters.

Follow Up from Joint AA/SEES Retreat

Provost Simpson reported that an academic retreat is held each semester, with this semester's retreat being a joint AA/SEES retreat. Held on January 9, the retreat focused on learning/living communities, time to degree, service learning, and internalization of the curriculum. Issues discussed included deadline for declaring a major; re-defining our student classification structure (i.e., when a freshman becomes a sophomore, a sophomore becomes a junior, and a junior becomes a senior); the importance of how we orient students to the campus. A joint AA/SEES retreat will be held annually.

Academic and Wellness Orientation

Don Stansberry reported that the Freshman Committee is appraising freshmen student readiness, and assessing the effectiveness of Preview and Week of Welcome. An academic component needs to be included in the orientation process of Preview and Week of Welcome. Since classes officially begin each semester on a Saturday and most freshmen do not take Saturday classes, having that Saturday as the official start day/first day of class for freshmen should be considered. Included in the Saturday activities could be academic coaches and peer mentors, incorporating an academic component into the activities. We may want to invite parents to the Saturday (or Friday night) activities, since many will be in town with the student, and will have many questions of their own. This would provide the opportunity to discuss financial aid and other issues parents may need to discuss.

David Trites' Visit/CRM

Jane Dane' reported that this committee will be spending time with David Trites, Noel-Levitz retention consultant, on February 4-5 (invitations are forthcoming). Jane reviewed the agenda. The following goals for the meetings have been outlined:

- Create visibility and support to help sustain the initiatives to improve the quality of student life and learning at Old Dominion University.
- Facilitate discussions and reflection on opportunities to enhance retention of targeted populations.
- To review Student Retention Predictor (SRP) variable diagnostics data to determine high impact targets for retention improvement.
- Identify priority strategies to be included in the strategic enrollment plan.

Retain is the retention software from Hobson's that was implemented and is being fine-tuned to meet our needs. Much focus will be on how we can use this tool to help with our retention committee activities. Phase II for Retain will add elements for communication and reporting to the database. Will meet with parking and other areas who have expressed interest in using the tool. Connect is the product we use to reach students early on and is live, with 80,000 names that were just entered for our student search process.

Sandy Waters reported that she is meeting with the College of Business to implement piece with the early alert; when faculty make comments, they go to the students. Sandy is meeting this afternoon on Agile Advisor. Making progress on reports getting advisors assigned to students.

Dave Metzger commented that the peer educators program will concentrate on business courses. Increasing courses from 10 to 24 current

Don Stansberry reported that he is using CRM to congratulate students on their academic achievements and to recognize their birthdays. Personalized emails are sent to the students and are another way to make the students feel important and noticed. Feedback indicates the students really like this personal touch.

Follow Up on Student Entry Process

Rusty distributed copies of and explained the student success application development system (on-boarding system) he, Jane and others are developing, which guides students from the point of admission to the first week of classes at ODU. The value of the system is not just to assist students but also to collect data on the students, allowing us to assess the success of this system. The on-boarding system has three main components: financial, services (such as housing, dining plan, student health, parking), and preparation (register for Preview, take placement test, advising, register for courses, Week of Welcome). Each component has a status (not completed; completed; not available), which is driven by date and process dependencies. The data collected would be used for predictive and recommendation analytics (such as map tutoring services and supplemental instruction to courses; recommend a meeting with CME; who is not likely to return). This on-boarding system could be used to build a student success map system.

Mary Swartz reported that she has asked for money in her budget to purchase College Scheduler, software that allows a student to input the classes (s)he wants to take for a semester and those activities (s)he also participates in (such as football practice, band practice, work, etc.) and the software finds the various configurations of classes that fit the student's many activities. Universities that use this software find that students are taking more credits, registrations have increased, and have improved their time to degree. This software is an integration of Banner and Degree Works.

Retention Committee Update

Sandy Waters reported that 276 freshmen have not yet registered. The committee talked to 127; 70 were not returning; 4 enlisted. The committee will continue to work with the remaining 149 students. The University goal is to have 82% retention for this cohort. For last semester (fall 2012) 1,973 undergraduate students were placed on academic warning or probation.; freshmen were the largest group, followed by juniors; 333 students were suspended, with 79 students appealing; 51 granted, 28 denied.

Freshmen Committee

Don reported that this committee is working on the Pick One Program and SSI, which is a program for students to become engaged in smaller communities. Goal would be all first-year students have a unique experience with 20 of their peers that connect them to the university. We have two study abroad programs for the summer.

Rusty would like to include distance learning students in online learning communities. This is an opportunity to connect with the students.

First-Year

Judy Luedtke and Joe Ritchie are co-chairing a review curriculum and assessment data of both the student success classes (UNLV) and introductory student success classes in respective colleges. 850 first year students were enrolled in these classes in fall 2012. This committee is also exploring how to incorporate success curricula into the existing general education curriculum.

Sophomore Success Program

The Honors College is piloting a special section of ENGL 211 focused on career education that could be potentially linked to a sophomore Living/learning community next year. Alice Jones worked with faculty member to create the syllabus for this course. Leon McClinton, Chris Ricks and John Lee are developing a SS living/learning community for next year. This semester, the SS program is piloting a transition advisors program for sophomores in the Batten College of Engineering and Technology.

Holds

Rusty distributed and reviewed his report on holds. A holds dashboard is being developed.

Sandy reported that a big discussion occurred in the Retention committee this week regarding the immunization hold. This might be something we deal with before students arrive at ODU.