Student Success Committee Meeting
9:00 AM, October 10, 2014
Koch Hall Conference Room

Present: Jane Dane´, Terri Mathews, Ellen Neufeldt, Carol Simpson, Don Stansberry, Mary Swartz, Rusty Waterfield, Johnny Young.

Predictive Model
Jane reported that many of the committee members had the opportunity to meet with Dave Trites when here was on campus in September to discuss who we might be able to address our students at risk. A risk distribution/student retention predictor "fireplace" graph was discussed during his visit that showed the number of students at risk.

To address those freshmen students who live 150 miles from home, a series of programs have been developed to connect and engage these students. Activities have included a Spirit of Norfolk dinner, a tour of Colonial Williamsburg, and other area tours. These students will participate in the Homecoming parade as out-of-state students. Activities are held bi-weekly. Graduate students are sending reminders of these and other activities they can participate in. Discussion followed concerning breaking down the 1900 into smaller groups. Comments included using the portal and social media to target specific smaller groups.

Jane commented that we have identified those students "in the middle" and note that there is a great deal of overlap. Retention and yield have sagged for these students. CME and Vicki Bonner will divide these students up and be intrusive (i.e., find out who they are doing, if they are engaged, attending classes, participating in activities, etc.).   Discussion followed on tools that encourage class attendance, such as giving extra credit for being in class or for taking a quiz in class. Terri reported that she looked at class capture data on a chemistry class and found higher grades from students who looked at class capture. She also reported that Dr. Landers is conducting research on rewarding badges to students who attend all the classes of a course and whose names are placed into a drawing at the end of the semester. Rusty suggested that, in large classes, careleaders (high-achiever students) be identified and "cheer on" or encourage those students who may be struggling in the class. Brief discussion followed. Some comments included inviting high achievers and low achievers to a dinner without disclosing why they were chosen for the dinner but with the intention of getting these two groups into the same room to have spontaneous, unstructured discussions on how to be successful in the classroom.

Following discussion, it was decided Johnny will lead a group that includes Terri, Brian, Don, Scott Seachrist (and other faculty to be determined) that will research a noncredit freshman year experience course.

Jane reviewed the graph comparing the average cumulative attempted and earned hours and GPA for the Fall 2012 and Fall 2013 cohorts. The Fall 2012 cohort attempted an averaged cumulative 27.24 hours and achieved an averaged cumulative GPA of 2.77; the Fall 2013 cohort attempted an averaged cumulative 28.23 hours and achieved an averaged cumulative GPA of 270. Brief discussion followed.

Predictive Tool Update
Jane reported the pilot groups are currently active and more usage will be expected as preregistration approaches.

Review and Update Committees
a. Portal/Communication
Rusty briefly reviewed the recent updates to the student portal. He reported that everything done in the Portal is also done, as much as possible, in the ODUmobile. We are awaiting approval from Apple on our ODUMobile design.

Responding to the Provost's comment asking if it possible to have all our different systems more seamlessly integrated, Rusty responded that it is possible; most of the level of integration will be at the single sign-on level. He acknowledged that the portal has been developed around students; we should develop a system all around everyone, including faculty, students, staff, etc. It was suggested that the faculty be introduced to the student portal.

b. Sophomore Success
Johnny reported that this committee met last week and discussed targeting efforts to identify those at-risk students who fall within the range of 2.5-2.8 GPA. Advisors will be encouraged to reach out to those students and urge them to get connected with different types of support services. These students will be identified once mid-term grades come out. Mary reported that 60% of the grades are in now. Sophomore Success News is still being sent out.

c. Degree Completion Group
Mary reported that as of September 11, about 10% of the original study who applied to graduate but did not graduate had been awarded degrees and 42 students have a future graduation date. Graduate staff in her office on working on this with Sandy Waters and academic advisors, and will verify student population through the National Student Clearinghouse to identify students who have left the University and have been awarded a degree elsewhere. Students who moved to another institution will be identified. Staff is working to remove students on final suspension and focusing on students in good standing and at last attended. Staff is also working with students who have less than 12 credits remaining to graduate and looking at Financial Aid to see if they are still eligible. Sandy and Rob Curry are working on matching academic advisors to potential completers.