

Student Success Committee Meeting

8:30 a.m., March 13, 2015

Koch Hall Conference Room

Present: Jane Dane', Todd Johnson, Lisa Mayes, Ellen Neufeldt, Brian Payne, Provost Simpson, Don Stansberry, Rusty Waterfield, Sandy Waters.

Freshman Reader

Brian met recently with our bookstore rep who indicated Follet would like us to consider offering a first-year book program whereby all freshman would be encouraged to read a specific book, which would be available at the ODU bookstore. Discussion followed.

Fall 2014 Class Retention

Jane reported that this committee will be meeting this afternoon. The retention rate for the fall 2014 class is at 94.32%. Last year at this time, the retention rate was 92.92%. Rusty's team, Scott Harrison and Jane are working on cohort validation; that is, ensuring students who are enrolled are indeed here at ODU. Our data shows us where students are using our services, if they have dropped or added classes, are in their housing, etc. Calls are made to those students who are not checking in.

Predictive Tool Update

Brian will schedule a meeting with those professors whose DFWI rates are high and those whose rates are low to foster an exchange of ideas and suggestions.

Sandy distributed copies of the Nursing information sheet, a 1-pager that highlights the job opportunities for a nursing degree, the salary ranges, areas of employment, courses, minimum requirements for admission to the nursing major, and areas of study for those interested in the major. Similar information sheets will be developed for every major offered at ODU. Career Management Center is working with ODU alumni on what our grads are earning. Discussion followed.

Another information sheet being developed will have more generalized topic areas and will have major hubs that are very generic but students can see many options available as to careers in that field. A Health Sciences and engineering sheet have been completed in this manner.

Developed a survey and sent to students in the murky middle trying to determine what they are thinking after one semester. We are 34 students will be pulled into my office and see what we can do to get them into different plans.

Sandy met with Andy Casiello this week regarding integrating distance learning students into the EAB tool. Identify success markers courses for transfer students. Will partner on training campus site; self-paced certificate. Next week will be talking about Hobson's, looking further with the tools we have.

EAB is integrating GradFirst tools into the Student Success collaborative. Discussion.

We have been offered the opportunity to be a pilot on the GradesFirst software. GradesFirst has a lot of opportunities trying to integrate things that are doing with tutoring, mentoring and follow up. This is important for the distance learning students.

Freshman Seminar

Sandy reported that a meeting is scheduled next week of the facilitators doing a similar type class. Goal is to see if from the instructors' perspective they feel is a common outcome for that. Johnny presented the data in engineering class at last SSC meeting. Brian suggested course was not ?? Review of what JY reported at last months' meeting.

Don: will look at this but we need to talk with the faculty who are teaching these courses. We have the data but it did not tell us what we need it to tell us. We will talk with faculty about what their vision is for the group. . . Going to the "experts" first (faculty). Discussion.

Sandy: we are hoping each one of the courses is designed to help students make a decision about each major.

Carol: students are not sure how they are to absorb all this information. The faculty in Enineering I have been talking to feel the course does help. Measuring the success of this course will not be easy.

Discussion of when students should declare a major. This course will help them decide what they like and do not like.

Lisa: I think the people who are pushing do not have a good understanding of student development. The first semester it is very difficult to et themn to pick a major. We can help students a little bit later come were we have a better success rate of the students sticking to their major. Discussion.

Ellen: if you are not getting into certain courses your first semester or getting into a certain track, they will not be read to choose at the end of their freshman year. Bigger issue is a general education where it does not allow then to switch majors.....

Brian: oversee revisions in 2010; have not gone through the full cycle yet. We can look at what is working and what is not now.

Lisa: we have to be careful, we do not want to do a disservice with students by handholding. One of the biggest deficiencies in students is critical thinking. We need to lead them, help them learn how to make these critical thinking decisions. There is a fine line. . . All the above deal with "intensive coaching."

Don: there is a balance in processing our coaching model should have a compomnent that includes handling consequences of the decisions the students make. What could you have done to make a better outcome? Discussion connecting advising/coaching piece to causes.

Review and Update Committees Technology Tools

Lisa: question in the portal: can Lisa's area ask a question of the week? Lisa will call Scott about this.

Entry Process

Rusty we are producing