

Student Success Committee Meeting

10:00 a.m. September 11, 2015

Koch Hall Conference Room

Present: Jane Dane', Chandra de Silva, Todd Johnson, Terri Mathews, Lisa Mayes, Ellen Neufeldt, Don Stansberry, Mary Swartz, Sandy Waters, Johnny Young.

Fall 2014 Class Retention

Jane reported that retention is at 82%, due in large part to the efforts of a small group who worked in the evenings in the SEES office suite in Koch Hall from May through early September, calling those students who had not yet registered for classes this fall. Following discussion, it was decided that Jane, Sandy, and Vicki Bonner will meet to draft names to add to the pool of workers in the phone call retention efforts.

A celebration will be scheduled to thank and to recognize those who assisted in achieving the 82% retention rate. Discussion followed on "making retention everybody's business" on campus and comments included sending a letter to advisors from the Office of Advising and Transfer Programs thanking them for helping us achieve the 82% retention rate; sending a letter to the campus community from President Broderick applauding this achievement; sending a letter to faculty from interim Provost de Silva, encouraging them to continue to work on retention; sending a letter from interim Provost de Silva and Vice President Neufeldt thanking the college community for their retention efforts and encouraging them to continue, and mentioning the larger freshman class.

A student success award or initiative was considered as a means to encourage retention efforts across the campus, among faculty, departments, student organizations, etc., with programs, events, activities, initiatives – all aimed at student retention. Discussion followed. Lisa, Jane, Todd, and Terri will meet to further discuss the idea of a student success initiative/challenge.

Fall 2015 Class Retention

Jane reported that this year we were able to get the data on at-risk students earlier than in years past and as a result, were offering SSI and learning communities early on. Sandy reported that advisors are hosting pre-advising meetings now, with Arts & Letters last week, Business this week, and others next week. Access to the data this summer helped with programming: we offered financial boot camp and financial literacy workshops, FSI adventure experiences (for engagement and leadership skills) before fall classes began. Todd reported that the financial literacy committee is developing a program now that would incentivize preparing a budget, by offering prizes to students who view financial literacy modules. Don reported that the FYE committee is talking about how to get next to next year's class now, before they arrive at ODU; offering a budget workshop and a financial aid workshop.

Terri Mathews reported that statistics for the first week of SI 103 shows 86% attended.

Predictive Tool Update

Jane reported that Retain is still very actively used; Agile Advisor has been replaced with SSC Campus. Retain II is in the plans. The data selection is being done now; identifying all the elements. Jane will meet with the Colleges of Health Sciences and Business about getting into Retain.

Review and Update Committees for 2015-16

- Portal/Communication
Rusty and Chandra will discuss this committee to determine its status.
- Technology Tools
To be determined.
- Entry Process
Rusty and Jane will discuss this committee to determine its status.
- Financial Literacy
This committee will remain.
- Advising
This committee will remain. Sandy reported that final touches on being made to the 5-year strategic plan and will make a presentation at a future meeting.
- FYE
This committee will remain. The first program for out-of-state students was held this week. The theme for the month of August was “welcome.” This month’s theme is “get connected.”
- Sophomore Success
This committee will remain.
- Faculty Advisory Group
Johnny will discuss this with Brian and report at next month’s meeting.
- Assessment
This committee will remain. Jane reported that 2,995 freshmen are enrolled at ODU.
- Degree Completion Group
This committee will remain. Mary reported that the committee has identified 100 students they will work with, all of whom have at least 117 credits, no holds, and a good GPA. The committee will look at transfer credits before contacting each student. Distance learning staff will work on a simple communication to go to these students.
- Internship Committee with Career Development Services
Johnny and Ellen will discuss this.

Update

Sandy reported that she is taking the role of Director of the Student Center Success and Transitioning Testing Center in her area. Lisa will be moving back to Koch Hall, working closely with Brian related to High Impact Practices (HIP), as Executive Director of Academic Initiatives.