

Student Success Committee Meeting
12 Noon, November 16 2016
Koch Hall Conference Room

Present: Austin Agho, Tania Alvarez, Daniela Cigularova, Jane Dane', Scott Harrison, Todd Johnson, Terri Mathews, Lisa Mayes, Ellen Neufeldt, Humberto Portellez, Akeyla Reid, Don Stansberry, Rusty Waterfield, Johnny Young.

Brother 2 Brother Mentoring Program

Johnny reported that a chapter of Brother 2 Brother (B2B) is being established at ODU to help our Black and Latino men to graduate. This is a nationally recognized mentoring program for African American and Latino male students enrolled in college striving for academic excellence. Started in 1990 at Georgia Southern University by Tyrone Bledsoe, there are now approximately 250 chapters nationwide in 39 states. B2B uses a specialized culturally sensitive programming model to build the aspirations of young men via peer cohort and role model approach. Objectives are to: create a college-going culture, college-staying culture, and college graduating culture; close the achievement gap between male and female counterparts; focus on persistence and retention as desired outcomes; and set high expectation academically, socially, and personally.

Dr. Bledsoe provided training and orientation sessions on October 27-28. Johnny reviewed the guiding principles of the program that include these young men want someone to care, they want to be a part of something big, they need a sense of belonging and inclusion, they want a meaningful educational and life journey, and they want to be leaders who make a difference. The ODU chapter is guided by a steering committee composed of Randle James (Athletics), Todd Johnson (Auxiliary Services), Ed Gomez (faculty), Charles Wilson (former Dean, Arts & Letters), Lesa Clark (SEES), and Lisa Mayes (Academic Affairs, Center for High Impact Practices).

Next steps will be to form a student Executive Committee (President, Vice President, Secretary); Chairs and Co-chairs of committees (personal development, academics, service learning, membership/public relations, financial affairs, and social/spiritual); develop a strategic plan; find those young men who perhaps will be inspired by B2B and take up the leadership mantle latent within them.

Transfer Students

Daniela Cigularova, Director of Transfer Advising; Tania Alvarez, Coordinator of Transfer Advising and Articulation; and Akeyla Reid, Transfer Success Coordinator presented on transfer advising and articulation. Daniela began by defining "transfer student." The SCHEV and IPEDS definition, and used by ODU, is: A student entering the institution for the first time but known to have previously attended a postsecondary institution at the same level (e.g. undergraduate). The student may transfer with or without credit. Daniela described the diversity of transfer students at ODU as follows:

- Vertical (2-year -> 4-year)
- Lateral (4-year -> 4-year)
- Reverse (4-year -> 2-year)

- Military (diversity within that population)
- International (transferring credits from outside the USA)
- Stop-outs; returners
- Concurrent enrollment (colleges, high school)
- Swirling (in and out of ODU)
- Internal (within ODU)

Common myths about transfer students include:

- They are more self-reliant than freshmen.
- Transfer students are “first-time” students at their new institution.
- Transfer students have a smoother transition than freshmen.
- Transfer students are not interested in campus engagement.
- Demographics are similar to first-year students.

Daniela reviewed the key data of transfer students:

- 8761 enrolled undergraduate transfer students for Fall 2016, with 1705 newly-admitted transfers and 703 distance learning transfer enrolled.
- 65.36% of the 2015 students transferred with a completed Associate Degree.
- The most frequently transferred degree was Associate of Science Degree (39.16%).
- Transfer students with Associate Degrees had on average higher final ODU GPA (2.7) compared to students without Associate Degree (2.4).
- Transfer students with Associate Degrees were retained at the highest rate after a year at ODU (78%) compared to non-degree students (74%).
- Data from 2008-2009 cohort indicated that 60% of transfer students with Associate Degrees earned a bachelor's degree at ODU in 4 years – higher than non-degree students.

Daniela pointed out that for transfer students, summer may be their first semester at ODU, not the fall as with freshmen students. ODU is a transfer student-friendly campus. Transfer students are retained and are graduated at higher levels compared with other Virginia institutions.

Initiatives focused on transfer students' success and engagement include:

- Time to Degree: Finish on Time Initiative
- Transfer Committee
- Transfer student on the SGA Senate
- Transfer Mentors
- Transfer Tuesday initiative
- Articulation agreements
- ODU curriculum sheets with VCCS equivalencies
- Monarch Transformation database with course equivalencies
- Academic Skills course for transfer students
- Needs assessment and focus groups
- Prior Learning committee
- Campaigns utilizing predictive analytics
- Make Me a Monarch events

- Transfer Learning Community
- Transfer Advising Day
- Tau Sigma National Honors Society for transfer students
- Transfer Advising website and email

Tanya reported that articulation agreements from community colleges have increased since 2009/10 from 24 individual programs to 190 individual programs in 2015/16. ODU currently has articulation agreements with 24 Virginia community colleges. The most popular programs transfer students are enrolled in at ODU are Criminal Justice, Human Services, Engineering Technology, and Health Sciences. Discussion followed.

Predictive analytics are used to design and implement proactive-targeted advising campaigns for greater impact on student success. Examples of targeted advising campaigns include campus resources, dates to remember and tips for newly-admitted transfer students; early advising campaigns for transfer students in Academic Warning; Student Success Seminar; “Keep It Up” campaign for transfer students who are excelling. Discussion followed.

First Generation Committee Update

Don reported that this committee is targeting out of state, first generation and males. Male students were invited to an “NFL Football Night” held on Monday, November 14. Pizza was provided, as well as information about registration and other challenges. Questions were answered and advice was given. Approximately 70 male students attended. Lisa Mayes will present a mentoring program for first generation students, with 50+ faculty recruited; Johnny will lead this group. A “reach back” event for out-of-state students is planned at an upcoming basketball game. Sophomore success efforts include Monarch Passport to Success, working with sophomores on academic probation and providing tutoring, mentoring and invitations to activities and events to keep them engaged, including recently a financial literacy workshop.

Financial Literacy Committee Update

Todd reported that the contract with iGrad was renewed and are working with someone who wants to target financial literacy for off-campus students. Putting together proposal for off campus students. Family weekend this year offered financial literacy programs. Brief discussion on FASFA Prior-Prior filing, which allows students to report tax information from a prior-prior tax year (PPY) allowing tax information from two years ago. This change allows students to file their FASFA in October.

Winter Term

Discussion ensued regarding Winter Term classes and supports in place for students who may need technical, academic or other assistance during a time when the university is closed for the winter holidays. Rusty reported that faculty have been contacted regarding assistance from the technical support desk. Processes are in place that will alert technical staff if something comes up. Working on best practices now. Attendance was low at a recent faculty technology orientation conducted for those teaching during winter term.

The Financial Aid office and the Office of Finance will be open during the winter holidays. The library will also be open during the winter holiday break. Because Winter Term is part of Spring semester, payment is not due until spring payment is due; refunds will not be given until refunds in spring are given.

Lecture Capture

Rusty commented that while he attended a conference, he viewed a poster that analyzed data that showed reduced DFWI rates in classes using lecture capture. Brief discussion ensued. Rusty will report at the December meeting on lecture capture activities at Virginia Tech.