

Council on Retention and Graduation Steering Committee

February 23, 2012

UC 3171

Presiding: Kathy Johnson

Present: Lorrie Brown, Cathy Buyarski, Zebulun Davenport, Gina Sanchez Gibau, Steve Graunke, Michele Hansen, Kathy Johnson, Susan Kahn, Kathy Marrs, Khaula Murtadha, Howard Mzumara, Gary Pike, Rebecca Porter, Khalilah Shabazz, Regina Turner, Pratibha Varma-Nelson, Rick Ward, and Jeff Watt

Regrets: Robert Aaron, Sarah Baker, Gary Felsten, Mary Fisher, Denise Johnson, and David Sabol

1. Johnson welcomed committee members.
2. Updates on Surveys and NSSE:
 - Graunke distributed copies (electronically) of the 2011 IUPUI Graduate Alumni Survey and the 2011 IUPUI Undergraduate Alumni Survey. Reports for individual schools are available. He reviewed general data from the reports, including the following:
 - Approximately 86% of working bachelor's respondents reported that they are working in Indiana (72% for working doctoral respondents and 76% for working master's respondents).
 - Approximately 87% of working bachelor's respondents reported that their IUPUI education prepared them very well or somewhat well for their jobs; 99% of working doctoral respondents and 89% of working master's respondents reported that their IUPUI education prepared them very well for their jobs.
 - Approximately 97% of bachelor's respondents reported that they could very effectively or effectively think critically and analytically (98% for doctoral respondents and 94% for master's respondents).
 - Approximately 95% of bachelor's respondents reported that they were very satisfied or satisfied with the overall quality of the education they received at IUPUI (100% for doctoral respondents and 99% for master's respondents).
 - Graunke distributed and discussed the Fall 2011 IUPUI Student Pulse Survey on Commuter Student Involvement. The Student Pulse Survey is designed to be a quick survey asking about a particular issue that the campus can take quick action on. The results show that students who work on campus are more satisfied with their social involvement and are more likely to get involved. Slightly more than 50% of commuting students reported that they commute more than 10 miles. Survey results show that students who commute less are more likely to be involved on campus.
 - Graunke gave an update on NSSE (National Survey of Student Engagement). He distributed a flyer for NSSE, which is a national survey that comes out of Bloomington. IUPUI receives data reports comparing our campus to peer institutions. Graunke shared examples of questions on the survey and told how the results are used. Pike looks at benchmarks, but they need 50 students to respond in order for the benchmarks to be valid. Students received an e-mail from Chancellor Bantz and will receive a follow-up e-mail. The response rate as of yesterday morning was 12.9%. Graunke would like to see a 30% response rate. He gave suggestions on how to encourage students to complete the survey.

3. Agenda for Full Council Meeting on April 20:

- Johnson explained that the Enrollment Management Council had been invited to the spring meeting. Chris Foley has agreed to talk about dual credits. Representatives from the student support centers (Mathematics Assistance Center and University Writing Center) ran out of time at the last meeting, so they will be given time to talk at this meeting. Also, Denise O'Grady and Andy Klein will be speaking about support programs for student athletes.
- Johnson asked for other issues that should be discussed at the meeting. Buyarski asked that the discussion about dual credits include time about how students with dual credits are succeeding. Watt suggested that faculty be involved in this discussion about dual credits. Who is making decisions about dual credits policy? Watt and Johnson agreed to meet to discuss this issue and to put together a sketch for a dialogue.

4. IU FLAGS Report:

- Johnson distributed a report (electronically) that gives a comparison across campus about who is using the system and who is getting flagged. The goal is to help faculty use this system in the first two or three weeks in the semester. They are still working on the Academic Roadmap, which will feature the early alert system.
- Johnson asked for feedback from the committee. Buyarski told about the training that has taken place on campus, including sessions for directors of support programs, people who work with cohorts, schools, etc. Support centers are pulling data about every two weeks and sending e-mails to students. She told how some of the bigger schools are using IU FLAGS to reach out to their students.

5. Updates:

- Buyarski gave an update on the Orientation Retreat. This year the Orientation Advisory Council was formed. The retreat was used for the council to consider the common goal of orientation and to explore an overnight orientation. An expanded orientation would allow students time to engage with the campus. Davenport and his staff are strong partners in that effort. At this point, the orientation staff are looking at what an expanded orientation schedule would look like as well as logistics (especially space issues). They are also looking at ways to serve special populations (e.g., honors students, veterans and military personnel, athletes). There was discussion at the retreat about how to involve families in orientation. The council is working to standardize orientation advising across campus. Davenport pointed out that an extended orientation may not be best for some targeted populations, and the council discussed how to best serve these groups. He also explained that there is plenty of space for housing for an extended orientation. Murtadha thanked Buyarski and Davenport for giving consideration to nontraditional students. Buyarski explained some of the logistical problems they are trying to solve right now. Some of the advantages of an extended orientation include placement testing as part of the orientation process and students having time to reflect and prepare themselves for their advising sessions.
- Johnson gave an update on the proposed Transfer Support Services Center, which would be a hub for external transfer students. Johnson reviewed the three areas of focus for the center: goal commitment, academic integration, and social integration. The center would support transfer students in their first year at IUPUI. There would be a physical office, but it would have much more of a virtual presence. The center would provide centralized

support, but would not duplicate services offered by the schools. The center could serve as a resource for other schools that would like to develop something similar. The director would be more of an advocate rather than an advisor. The committee discussed the creation of an advisory council for transfer student services. Should this group be a subgroup of the CRG? Ward asked that any advisory council give consideration to the large group of students at IUPUI who are near degree completion. Johnson explained that some students would “age out” of the center and would be moved to Murtadha’s unit.

- Buyarski gave an update on the proposed Health and Life Sciences Support Center. IUPUI is the health and life sciences campus in the IU system. Our campus has the degree infrastructure, but we are very decentralized. There is not a lot of support for students interested in the health and life sciences. A meeting was held for all stakeholders. They decided upon three populations that need to be served: preprofessional students, the large number of students who are not admitted to the programs of their choice (e.g., nursing), and exploratory students in the health and life sciences. Johnson has given schools a survey to find out what services they provide in these areas and how they do their advising. The committee discussed budget and funding issues for the proposed center.

6. Other Business:

- There will be a General Education Town Hall meeting on March 30 at 10:00 a.m. in the Lilly Auditorium. She thanked committee members who worked on this effort.
- Johnson distributed flyers for the Summer JAG Initiative.
- Johnson shared a task force report from the University of Texas Austin. IUPUI is already doing most of the recommendations in the report. She asked for feedback on two specific items in the report.
 - First, should IUPUI make it more difficult for students to change their majors after four semesters or to add a second major if it cannot be finished in four years? Ward suggested that this would be a hardship for IUPUI students who have many demands on them already. Many students cannot graduate in four years. Students should be allowed to explore and change their majors. What if students graduate in four years, but with a degree they hate? Pike discussed some of the differences between IUPUI students and students at UT Austin. Buyarski said instead of making it more difficult for students to change majors, we could do some amazing things early to help students make good choices. This would require some big changes in the way we do things.
 - Second, should IUPUI have a flat tuition in the summer? Porter said many of our students must work in the summer. A flat tuition would require many students to pay more money for classes they cannot take.
- Ward reminded committee members about deadlines for summer research programs, Research Day, and a scholarship.

7. The meeting was adjourned.