

Council on Retention and Graduation Steering Committee

December 1, 2011

UC 3171

Presiding: Kathy Johnson

Present: Sarah Baker, Gary Felsten (via Polycom), Margaret Ferguson, Mary Fisher, Steve Graunke, Michele Hansen, Denise Johnson (via Polycom), Kathy Johnson, Susan Kahn, Kathy Marrs, Howard Mzumara, Gary Pike, Regina Turner, Lynn Ward (for John Gosney), and Jeff Watt

Regrets: Cathy Buyarski, Zebulun Davenport, David Sabol, Pratibha Varma-Nelson, and Rick Ward

1. Johnson welcomed committee members and opened the meeting.
2. Johnson asked the committee about meeting times for next semester. The committee agreed to keep the same day and time (Thursday mornings at 8:30 a.m.). Dates will be scheduled for next semester.
3. Update on 2012 Summer Initiative:
 - Johnson gave an update on the 2012 Summer Initiative. She thanked Fisher for her help with information from the previous year. The 2012 theme is JAG (Jumping Ahead to Graduation).
 - The initiative's committee is trying to focus on certain cohorts of students, including students moving from the first to the second year. Phyllis Washington and Winnie Wilson are helping with this effort. Veteran students are very interested in summer work experiences.
 - At the committee's meeting last week, it was suggested that the initiative target incoming transfer students. Other campuses have targeted incoming first-year students, but the committee is worried that first-year students may not have a great experience since the campus is very quiet in the summer. The committee is also considering targeting students in cohort programs associated with scholarships.
 - Janna McDonald is helping with the initiative. They are considering helping work-study students who are running out of funds to transition to a paid summer position. This will keep students engaged longer into the fall semester.
 - Johnson said the 2012 Summer Initiative committee welcomes input.
4. Graunke gave a live demonstration on how to use pivot tables in Excel. Lynda.com has a class on pivot tables if anyone wants more information about advanced features. The committee discussed pivot tables and how to use them.
5. Time Is the Enemy Presentation:
 - Hansen gave a summary of [*Time Is the Enemy*](#), a report from Complete College America. Hansen and Andrea Engler presented their summary to the University College Cabinet earlier in the week. The report is a call to action and focuses on why today's college students are not graduating. The report focuses on all students rather than just the first-time,

full-time students that IPEDS (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System) focuses on. There were about five major findings in the report.

- One finding was that nontraditional students are the new majority. Most students are juggling work and other responsibilities. Only 25% of students attend full time at residential colleges. Hansen told about the time commitments of IUPUI 2010 first-time, full time students.
- Another finding was that too few students graduate. She discussed rates of graduation and retention since 1970, performance funding, and recommendations from the report.
- Hansen told about a report she did for the Talent Alliance. They found that students eligible for Pell Grants are most at risk for attrition and academic failure. These findings are in alignment with the national report.
- Another finding was that graduation odds are especially low for African American students. Hansen reviewed the national graduation rates of African Americans, Hispanics, older students, and low-income students. She also reviewed data on IUPUI students and recommendations from the report. Some of the recommendations have been tried in University College. The committee discussed remediation.
- Another finding was that students are wasting time on excess credits and taking too much time to earn a degree. The committee discussed the credits different programs require. Fisher said the deans are working on this. Pike noted that excess credits is a problem when students change majors. The committee discussed some of the problems students have when changing majors, particularly majors that are in different fields (and schools).
- Another finding was that too many students need remediation and too few succeed when they get it. Remedial students are much less likely to graduate. Hansen reviewed IUPUI data about remediation and recommendations from the report. The committee discussed national trends in remediation and challenges on this campus. Several committee members noted that the recommendations for remediation are expensive. The committee discussed using strategic review sessions in class and stretching certain courses across two semesters.

6. Other Business:

- Khalula Murtadha will be joining the CRG Steering Committee in the spring.
- Johnson asked the committee about adding members to the full council in an ex officio capacity (such as deans and directors of academic support programs). The committee agreed to this and gave Johnson permission to restructure the council in the way she needs. Johnson shared her vision for the steering committee and the full council.

7. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:
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