

Council on Retention and Graduation Steering Committee
November 4, 2010
UC 3171
Presiding: Rick Ward

Present: Cathy Buyarski, Julie Elkins, Mary Fisher, John Gosney, Steve Graunke, Kathy Johnson, Howard Mzumara, Gary Pike, Rebecca Porter, David Sabol, Rick Ward, and Gayle Williams

Regrets: Sarah Baker, Michele Hansen, Susan Montgomery, and Marianne Wokeck

1. Ward welcomed committee members. There were no objections when he suggested moving the meetings to 8:30 a.m. beginning with the spring semester.
2. Ward introduced Julie Elkins, assistant vice chancellor of Student Life and Learning. Committee members introduced themselves.
3. MAP-Works:
 - Pike showed the committee the website for MAP-Works (www.map-works.com). The software was developed originally at Ball State University, but Educational Benchmarking took it over and put additional resources into it. There are over 100 institutions using it today.
 - Pike distributed a handout and discussed the diagram. He reviewed some of the characteristics of incoming students and transfer students. During the third week of classes, MAP-Works gives students a survey. The survey, which works best if it is part of a class such as a first-year seminar, is designed around a series of risk factors (academic, social, financial, etc.).
 - MAP-Works deploys information back to students in a nonconfrontational way. The institution defines who sees the reports such as faculty, advisors, staff, etc. The idea is to involve students and to take action.
 - Buyarski said she was at the assessment conference and heard a brief discussion about it. Her concern is with behavior feedback. The MAP-Works people said they thought they could come up with something to include it. If we go down this road, they should map out where this data needs to go. We should be very strategic.
 - The committee discussed getting different areas of campus to buy in to the software, involving faculty, and incorporating an early warning system. The committee discussed the current early warning system.
4. Roadmap/Early Warning/Other University-Wide Initiatives:
 - Ward reviewed what IUB has done over the last couple of years with undergraduate education. In part, they recognize that students need a better hub to obtain information about the things they need to be successful. Over the summer, there has been a group talking about a roadmap for students.

- The roadmap is a Web-based tool that could give students access to a lot of resources, ranging from admissions to graduation, advising appointments, progress in meeting demands for the major, exploration of careers, etc.
- IUPUI has been asked to give feedback, especially things our campus wants on the roadmap. After Ward gave his assessment of the situation, the committee discussed the roadmap and how to involve students and faculty.

5. Personal Development Plan:

- Buyarski gave a demonstration of the personal development plan (PDP). She explained that the PDP is in Oncourse. The PDP was developed at the University of Michigan. Students can get the PDP in two ways: a faculty member could have the PDP in a course site or the PDP can be in a separate portfolio site. Most faculty choose to use the separate portfolio site so students can access it easily.
- Buyarski gave a demonstration of the matrix that is used to put information in the PDP. This step is dependent on faculty scaffolding the PDP with what is going on in the classroom.
- Many students love the resume feature and the “about me” section. A few students say they see the PDP as busywork, but the majority like it. Elkins said she likes the PDP. She told about the Averno College model where students did interviews and had to verbally articulate their own development.
- After the pilot, they will begin addressing some issues with the PDP. There will be faculty development workshops about the PDP. Buyarski said about half of the first-year seminars will use the PDP this year.

6. CRG-EMC Summit:

- Ward gave a brief review of the CRG-EMC summit. He was pleased with the interplay between CRG and EMC members. Some good ideas came out of the summit.
- Ward asked what committee members thought about the ideas from the summit.
 - Porter said we need definitive outcome expectations.
 - Fisher suggested working incrementally.
 - Pike suggested selecting four major ideas that emerged from the summit: engagement beyond the first year, transition to the major, retention/graduation/transfers, and RISE.
 - Johnson said she likes the idea of having short-term goals and long-term goals. She believes the committee should recruit people outside of the CRG. The CRG Steering Committee should give task forces a charge to develop an action plan.
 - Mzumara suggested looking at student mentoring. Could IUPUI have a student mentoring program that helps students through graduation? It would be a way of supporting students. All the schools would need to support this. The committee discussed this.
 - Johnson said she does not want good ideas from the summit to be forgotten.
 - Pike suggested setting limits to the new task forces; otherwise, they can research this forever. We should tell groups to have an action plan by May.

- Elkins said one thing that stood out to her about the summit was the thoughtfulness of the morning presentations. The speakers discussed evidenced-based practices. Whatever we do with the task forces, we should go back and look at our resources.
- Ward said we need to conceptualize the conversation by reemphasizing that grounded research.
- Williams said there are elements of the first-year programs that can be incorporated into future work.
- Buyarski reminded the committee that the campus already has a student employment council.
- Pike told what Arizona State is doing with need-based aid. Students succeed when their financial problems are taken care of.
- Porter said we need to think about resources. Will we need to shift resources?

7. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:
A. Snyder
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