

MINUTES

Missouri S&T Retention Committee Meeting

February 21st, 2013

8:15-9:15 AM

Members Present: Larry Gragg, Scott Miller, Tim Albers, Bridgette Betz, Cecilia Elmore, Leon Hall, Katie Jackson, Daniel Reardon, Kristi Schulte, Lynn Stichnote, Laura Stoll, Nangai Yang.

Members Absent: Tyrone Davidson, Patty Frisbee, Edna Grover-Bisker, Deanne Jackson, Thulasi Kumar, Rachel Morris, Stephen Raper, Ramya Thiagarajan, Klaus Woelk.

I. Review and Approval of Minutes

The committee members reviewed the minutes from the February 7th, 2013 meeting. A motion was made (Laura Stoll) and seconded (Kristi Schulte) to approve the minutes with 1 correction.

II. Old Business

a. None

III. New Business

a. Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium presentation by Dr. Jeff Cawlfild.

Missouri Core State Standards adopted in 2010 for Math and English Language Arts. Standards will go into effect for 2014-15 aid year.

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 was heavily criticized because of its emphasis on sanctions for poor performance. Federal funding was low and current administration has granted waivers to many states beginning in 2012.

Motivation for CCSS

-Politically, there seems to be great antagonism toward any national school requirements for specific curriculum or teaching methods.

-There is a recognized need that states need to have commonality so that students moving to/from different locales can be in a consistent system.

-Higher Ed would like to see more consistency so that students from different states would come from similar K-12 experiences.

Current Status of CCSS

-45 states have signed on

-Sciences, Art, etc. are being developed

-Action is focused on developing assessments

-26 states are in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC)

SBAC

The goal of SBAC is to develop a common assessment instrument for math and ELA that will align with the CCSS and will be administered for grades 3-8 and 11. Each assessment will place the student in Level 1-4 (1-minimal command, 4-deep command). The concern for higher education is that the grade 11 assessment will certify a student as “college ready” or not. If a student achieves a level 3 or 4, they will be deemed “college ready” and means a student will be exempt from taking remedial work at college Math or ELA.

Missouri S&T

University of Missouri is officially prohibited from offering remedial courses (MDHE policy). There are several questions: What if a student is deemed “college ready” in math but not ELA? Do we offer remediation prior to English 20? What if a student pursuing a BA in History enrolls at S&T and is ready in ELA but not math? What are the consequences if we deny admission to a student who is deemed “college ready”?

S&T wants to ensure that we can still carry out our math placement testing to place students in our math sequence (and we can according to SBAC policy). Dr. Reardon estimates that maybe 5-10% of our current incoming freshmen will test at level 3/4 on the grade 11 ELA standards as they are currently written. Stephanie Fitch and Dr. Morgan would be very happy to receive math students who test at a level 3/4.

IV. Announcements

a. None.

V. Next Meeting: Thursday, March 7th, 2012 at 8:15 am.

The meeting was adjourned.