

MINUTES

Missouri S&T Retention Committee Meeting

April 19th, 2012

8:15-9:15 AM

Members Present: Harvest Collier, Scott Miller, Tyrone Davidson, Cecilia Elmore, Stephanie Fitch, Patty Frisbee, Larry Gragg, Deanne Jackson, Katie Jackson, Rance Larsen, Rachel Morris, Kristi Schulte, Carol Smith, Lynn Stichnote, Laura Stoll, Nangai Yang, Summer Young.

Members Absent: Edna Grover-Bisker, Brooke Durbin, Thulasi Kumar, Stephen Raper, Brad Starbuck, Ramya Thiagarajan.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The committee members reviewed the minutes from the April 5th, 2012 meeting. A motion was made (Cecilia Elmore) and seconded (Nangai Yang) to approve the minutes with a paragraph added to the first year course summary.

I. Old Business

- a. Update on Annual Retention Report to Chancellor Schrader.
This year's annual presentation will focus on the subcommittees.

II. New Business

- a. Finalizing end of term items:

Subcommittees will be the big factor for recommendations to the chancellor. Carol Smith asked if the annual report recommendation will include changing the target retention percent of 90. Harvest Collier stated that it should be a data driven choice. Undergraduate Studies will try to get data to discuss this further.

We will be able to show trend data from the last six years from the non-returning call lists.

Patty Frisbee indicated that comparing the graduating senior survey with the entering freshmen survey would be good data to share.

Undergraduate Studies will look at Hogan Personality Inventory (HPI) data to see what can be used for predicting student success other than the data we have used in the past. Possibly looking at Math 2 & 3 students' Hogan data and use those

students as a pilot group. Another possibility is looking at the connection between LASSI and HPI.

Larry Gragg indicated that Chancellor Schrader has started meeting with the academic departments. When she met with Larry's department, he said the conversation had a strong focus on retention. The chancellor is interested in data and her expectations are high.

Harvest Collier stated that there are two keys for success in a student's first year that positively correlate with a student graduating in 4-6 years:

1. 1st semester success
2. 2nd semester success

The struggles students face is not meeting their academic expectations. There have been a few focus groups on campus to try and address these issues. Larry Gragg will meet with his focus group today and report at a later time. Kristi Schulte has 2 focus groups that she's been meeting with and the themes that came across are academic expectations and connecting with groups and people on campus (realizing that they are normal even with a 2.5 gpa). Katie Jackson asked if we have mean/median gpa's that we can send in the parent newsletter to inform parents. Harvest Collier responded that the information is clearly stated in all recruitment processes. Patty Frisbee said there is no "one solution" to these struggles students face. We have to individualize responses for each situation. Rance Larsen asked how students take the message of having to work hard here at S&T. Unfortunately, we've all found that the students have to experience failure themselves. Scott Miller said the best way to get to students early is through their peers. Tyrone Davidson stated that On-Track seminars are strategically placed opportunities that are presented to students. They just don't voluntarily take those opportunities.

- b. Non returning student phone calling.
This item will be discussed at the next meeting on May 3rd.

III. Next Meeting: May 3rd, 2012.

IV. The meeting was adjourned.