

MINUTES

Missouri S&T Retention Committee Meeting

March 20, 2008

8:15-9:15 AM

Members Present: Harvest Collier, Kim Frazier, Jay Goff, Mary Ellen Kirgan, Thulasi Kumar, F. Scott Miller, Barb Prewett, Suzanne Schroer, Kristi Schulte, Lynn Stichnote, Laura Stoll, Christa Weisbrook

Members Absent: Amy Gillman, Larry Gragg, Sunnie Hughes, Stephen Raper

Guests: Gerard B. Myles (for Sunnie Hughes), and Jennifer Shaner, CERTI

- I. **Review & Approve Minutes**-The committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the 3/6/08 meeting.

- II. **Student Satisfaction Survey Subcommittee-Report**

The subcommittee asked who should pay for the survey. About 3000 students will be surveyed, and the cost will be approximately \$5,000.

Dr. Collier asked for discussion around the benefits of conducting the student satisfaction survey in order to relate these benefits to the Provost and the Chancellor. The survey will provide the university with information about student satisfaction of the campus community and will highlight opportunities for campus improvements in areas related to advising, course registration, physical facilities, library services, dining services, residential life and others.

The committee asked when the last survey was conducted. (Approximately 1999.) Is there evidence that retention improved after the satisfaction survey was conducted? Jay Goff indicated yes, if you correlate improvement, enrollment increases, and institutional changes with changes made on campus. We would expect this survey to have different outcomes than NSSE since it includes a different set of questions.

The subcommittee indicated the survey will be executed during the FS2008 or SP2009 semester. Dr. Collier will discuss with the Provost and Chancellor to get this going for administration in the fall. Lynn Stichnote asked if we can conduct the survey during the summer. Jay Goff would like us to push for implementation this semester. Jay suggests that this is a great cohort to survey because they have been through a lot of change on campus.

- III. **1st/2nd Year Retention- Update**

Dr. Collier reported that the new positions for first year- and second year program managers will be posted today on Human Resources's web site.

IV. Review Priority Issues for the 2007-08 Academic Year

The committee reviewed its goals for the 2007-08 year:

- A.** Develop a campus-wide program designed to assist probationary and academically deficient students.
- B.** Develop a mechanism for conveying the university's values, the academic rules and regulations, and the specific course expectations to our first year students early in the semester.
- C.** Consider the formal development of a Second Year Experience Program to help Missouri S&T sophomores succeed academically and complete their degrees.

Announcements: The Board of Curators will be here April 3-4, and will be presented with 1-2 year retention rates for all four campuses, and the meetings will be public. Request that Jay send his report to committee members.

The meeting was adjourned.