

MINUTES

Missouri S&T Retention Committee Meeting

April 17, 2008

8:15-9:15 AM

Members Present: Harvest Collier, Kim Frazier, Amy Gillman, Jay Goff, Larry Gragg, Mary Ellen Kirgan, C.R. Thulasi Kumar, F. Scott Miller, Stephen Raper Suzanne Schroer, Kristi Schulte, Lynn Stichnote, Laura Stoll, Christa Weisbrook

Members Absent: Sunnie Hughes, Barb Prewett

Guests: Gerard Myles (for Sunnie Hughes), Rachel Morris and Brad Starbuck, (Enrollment Management)

I. Review & Approve Minutes

The committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the 4/3/08 meeting.

II. Old Business

A. Student Satisfaction Survey - Dr. Kumar provided a response to the following questions:

1. Please provide clarification on how many students will receive the survey.- Dr. Kumar indicated 2,500 Missouri S&T students will receive the survey (600-700 from each cohort).
2. How did Noel Levitz respond to our request to conduct the survey this semester? - Dr. Kumar held two meetings with Noel Levitz and provided them with a proposed timeline. He is currently waiting for a response. The committee indicated they would like to consider going with ACT if Noel Levitz does not respond this week. It is important to get the survey out this year in order to capture baseline data from the 1st to 2nd year students.
3. What data did the 1999 survey provide? The University administered the ACT survey until 2000. Dr. Kumar distributed a copy of the Freshman Satisfaction Survey Results from 1990-2000. For a number of reasons, the committee seeks to proceed with the survey ASAP. Dr. Kumar will follow up with Noel Levitz and notify Dr. Collier of the outcome.
4. Is there a question in the survey that addresses student/faculty engagement outside the classroom? No. Dr. Kumar indicated there are no questions directly related to student-faculty engagement because it is a *general satisfaction survey*. Dr. Kumar referenced the 2006 NSSE survey and provided examples of related questions (i.e. *Academic and Intellectual Experiences*, and *Student-Faculty Interaction*).

B. Faculty/Student Interaction Dr. Collier held a recent discussion with students who indicated primarily students go to class to “listen and take notes”. Suzanne indicated this is true with science and engineering courses, but students are more engaged in non- science and engineering courses. Larry Gragg surveys his students, discussed student and instructor roles and overwhelmingly, students prefer lectures. Dr. Collier and Scott Miller related additional experiences that students do not like to “participate” in classes or answer questions. This is different in the upper level classes. Outside of class: We need to find out what students really want, and find out what the faculty are ready to give and find out where the gaps are. How do we know what sophomores want? We need to be careful about the questions so we can compare the results to the freshman PRO survey.

C. New Discussion Topic (not on the agenda):

Jay Goff indicated that when the 2002 Entering Student Survey was conducted, we intended to conduct a follow up survey with the same students prior to graduation. He suggested we try to capture this information this semester. Jay agreed to do an initial review of post survey questions and send it to the Student Satisfaction Subcommittee for additional consideration. Once approved, the subcommittee can conduct the follow up survey using the Hobsons’ Communication tool. Rachel Morris will assist with setting it up. The post survey will be sent to:

1. Missouri S&T freshmen finishing their first year.
2. Graduating Seniors- (Specifically May 2008 graduation candidates that came here as first time college students in the fall of 2002.)

The results of the post survey will be compared to the results of the 2002 PRO survey and presented to this committee.

Announcements:

A. Academic Advising Award Nominees -

Kim Frazier announced the names of those nominated for an Outstanding Academic Advising Award. She will send the full list to the committee. The awards luncheon will be held Tuesday, April 29th.

B. Missouri S&T Teaching & Learning Conference-

The Office of Undergraduate Studies distributed flyers for the April 25th conference.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on May 1, 2008.