

# MINUTES

## Missouri S&T Retention Committee Meeting

April 3, 2008  
8:15-9:15 AM

**Members Present:** Harvest L. Collier, Kim Frazier, Amy Gillman, Sunnie Hughes, Mary Ellen Kirgan, F. Scott Miller, Barb S. Prewett, Stephen Raper, Suzanne Schroer, Laura Stoll, Christa Weisbrook

**Members Absent:** Jay Goff, Larry Gragg, C.R. Thulasi Kumar, Kristi Schulte, Lynn Stichnote

**Guests:** Michelle Johnson, Academic Advisor, Missouri S&T Undergraduate Advising Office

### I. Review & Approve Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the 3/20/08 meeting, and approved the minutes with two minor corrections to section IV.

### II. Student Satisfaction Survey Subcommittee

The committee reviewed the most recent list of questions and suggested the questions be re-ordered as follows:

1. Student health services
2. University's opportunities to participate in athletics and healthy physical activities
3. Student disability services
4. Career Opportunities Center services
5. Campus space for clubs, leisure activities, etc.
6. Campus buildings and grounds are well maintained
7. Course add/drop processes
8. Billing and payment processes
9. Online student self-service program (Joe'SS)
10. The university's expectations on academic integrity

Prior to the next meeting, the committee suggested asking Dr. Kumar for a response to the following questions:

1. Please provide clarification on how many students will receive the survey.
2. How did Noel Levitz respond to our request to conduct the survey this semester?
3. What data did the 1999 survey provide?
4. Is there a question in the survey that addresses student/faculty engagement

outside the classroom?

The committee continued its discussion on the timeliness of the survey. If we conduct the survey in the fall, the committee suggested it be done in the late fall. However, the committee would still like to see the survey conducted this semester in order to capture important data from the freshman cohort.

Finally, the committee asked who will provide the funding (\$5,000) required to administer the survey.

### **III. Student/Faculty Engagement**

Dr. Collier – In a survey recently conducted by the New Student Programs office, Patty Frisbee reported that “93% of students expect faculty engagement outside the classroom”. Is that currently being met? The committee held an open discussion on the issue and following comments and suggestions were made:

- Consider the good things we are already doing and invite more faculty to get involved. (Dr. Miller)
- Consider encouraging all faculty to participate in commencement and freshman convocation at least once a year. Consider making a volume purchase of gowns for faculty. (Dr. Collier/Committee)
- Students get more out of their college experience when they take it upon themselves to “seek out” engagement from the more “active” faculty members. (Schroer)
- Some students choose not to seek it out themselves. Consider assigning a “faculty advocate” in each department and developing a mechanism for informing students about who to contact for help. (Dr. Raper)
- Make it clear to faculty that you can’t be good at everything and that it’s okay to focus on the things you are good at. Training materials are available for *Social Interaction and Communication* topics. Consider how we might get people to use them. (Dr. Weisbrook)
- Consider holding an open forum on the topic. (Hughes)
- More frequent discussions on this topic are needed at departmental meetings. (Gillman/ Frazier/Committee)

In conclusion, Dr. Collier indicated he would like to see an implementation plan developed to address these issues.

**The meeting was adjourned.**