

UMR Retention Committee Meeting

MINUTES

MAY 4, 2006

8:15 AM

MEETING CALLED BY	Harvest Collier
MEMBERS PRESENT	Meg Brady, Carl Burns, Harvest Collier, Stephanie Fitch, Amy Gillman, Jay Goff, Matt Goodwin, Marcus Huggans, Mary Ellen Kirgan, Gearoid MacSithigh, F. Scott Miller, Emily Petersen, Tammy Pratt, Lynn Stichnote, Laura Stoll, Steve Watkins
MEMBERS NOT PRESENT	Dana Barnard, Ron Bieniek, Gregory Gelles, Stephen Raper, Kristi Schulte, Robert Whites
GUESTS	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- The committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the April 20, 2006 meeting.

Agenda Items

I. Draft Retention Committee Annual Report

The committee reviewed and discussed the draft Retention Committee Annual Report. Committee members made suggestions and comments on the following issues:

Academic Advising

- Lynn Stichnote-What should we be saying about advising to the parents and students during PRO? How can we engage more advisors?
- Stephanie Fitch-Do we want to include a recommendation to investigate ways to assess advising? Feel the students would like to see something similar to the teaching evaluations implemented for advising.
- Harvest Collier- Further discussion on the need to have a campus-wide Advising Coordinator at UMR. Suggested more advising attend NACADA sponsored activities.
- Stephanie Fitch- Suggested making advising part of promotion and tenure.
- Harvest Collier- Indicated he would investigate further with Dr. Kosbar, the next Chair of Academic Council.

Student on Academic Probation & Academically Deficient

- Harvest Collier-How do we best impact all 300+ students in this category?
- Committee discussed the financial concern of doing this: There are costs associated with the JAM session model. Stephanie Fitch-How do we look at incorporating this into Freshman Engineering and other freshman courses?
- Tammy Pratt- Several concerns. Where are we going with the pilot program? Has difficulty accepting the pilot program assisted students. According to the report, there is no evidence that strategies were applied by students. Recommends an On Course-based program required for all 300+ students.
- Gearoid MacSithigh- Suggested building self improvement resources into all defined learning communities.

- Stephanie Fitch- Suggested attaching the requirement to deficiency notices in early June requiring students to take the course.
- Tammy Pratt, Stephanie Fitch and Gearoid MacSithigh-Recommended the committee come to a general consensus and make a recommendation for a full assessment/evaluation of the fall and spring pilot program to see what impact it had.
- Amy Gillman- Suggested taking another look at the Turning Point Retention Program implemented by Bradley University.

Teaching Resources for New Faculty & GTAs/Student Evaluations of Teaching

- Grammatical corrections noted.
- Suggested changing the last sentence in this section to “The Retention Committee would like regular updates from the CET committee, who is monitoring teaching effectiveness. (This identified the need to amend the February 2006 minutes.)

II. Retention Committee Membership- 2006/07 Academic Year

Discussed 2006-07 committee membership. Retention Committee members will confirm their membership at the last meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting in 2 weeks: Confirm committee membership, continue advising discussion, Look at Bradley University’s Retention Program and amend the minutes from the February 2006 meeting.