

MINUTES

Missouri S&T Retention Committee Meeting

May 7, 2009

8:15-9:15 AM

Members Present: Harvest Collier, Amy Gillman, Jay Goff, Larry Gragg, Mary Ellen Kirgan, Rance Larsen, F. Scott Miller, Rachel Morris, Barb Prewett, Kristi Schulte, Laura Stoll

Members Absent: Sunnie Hughes, C.R. Thulasi Kumar, Stephen Raper, Suzanne Schroer, Carol Smith, Brad Starbuck, Lynn Stichnote, Summer Young

I. Approval of Minutes: The committee reviewed the minutes from the April 30, 2009 meeting, and approved the minutes as written.

II. Retention Committee Recommended Actions- Dr. Collier presented a copy of the revised draft recommended actions. The committee reviewed the draft recommendations and suggested a few changes. Following are the revised recommendations:

Primary retention issues identified by students

1. Financial issues
2. Personal and family issues
3. Academic readiness
4. Engagement inside and outside the classroom
5. Classroom Learning Environment

Retention Assessment Instruments Reviewed

- Fall 2008 Entering Student Survey
- Fall 2008 Non-Returning Student Survey
- Spring 2008 Senior Survey
- Spring 2008 Student Satisfaction Survey
- 2007-08 Academic Alert System Report
- National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)
- Student Success Predictors (HPI)
- Spring 2009 Non-Returning Student Survey

In addition, the Retention Committee reviewed the following documents:

- Cumulative Retention & Graduate Rates of First-Time, Full-Time Degree Seeking Freshmen (Appendix A)
- First and Second Year Retention Plans (Appendix B)
- Critical Consideration for University At-Risk Students
- Retention Statistics/Missouri S&T Standing
- Draft Guidelines for Advising Probationary and Deficient Students

2008-09 Retention Committee minutes reflect five common themes relative to improving student retention:

1. Financial Issues
2. Need to Increase Student Interactivity and Campus Engagement
3. No Central Unit focusing on Promoting Parental Engagement
4. Improving Academic Advising
5. Scattered Student Support Services creates Problems
6. Continue Promotion of Student-Faculty Engagement Activities

2008-09 Retention Committee Recommended Actions

1. Focus new financial aid resources to increase need-based student financial aid availability.
2. Improve strategies for early, intensive and continuous intervention for students. (Student-faculty engagement, academic advising, academic support services, disability support services, peer mentoring, utilization of the academic alert system, etc.)
3. Centralize the parent and family support/outreach services to improve communication and campus engagement.
4. Establish a central information center for student academic support services, staffed with trained professionals.
5. Reconsider the development of a One-Stop-Shop facility for enrollment and advising services.
6. Continue and enhance academic advising support and training.
7. Enhance programs that promote student-faculty interactions.

III. New Business:

A. Non-Returning Student Report – Carol Smith and Summer Young presented the *Non-Returning Student Survey Results* for spring 2009. Following is a summary of the report:

Non-Returning Student Breakdown

- 88 students
- 53 Freshmen/35 sophomore
- 67 in state 21 out of state
- 80 from MO and neighboring states
- AVG ACT of 25.85
- AVG GPA 2.14
- 77 White, 2 Asian, 2 Black/African American, 2 Hispanic/Latino and 5 not specified

Students Surveyed

- 43 (49%) students reached by Phone or Email
- 22 First Year Students
- 21 Second Year Students
- 35 transferring
- 26 transferring in state, 9 transferring out of state 13 transferring to community colleges

First Year Student Survey Results

- 53 Non Returning Students
- 43 male 10 female
- 46 in state 7 out of state
- 51 from MO and surrounding states, 6 from Phelps County and surrounding counties
- AVG ACT 25.94
- AVG GPA 1.78
- 49 White, 1 Asian, 1 Black/African American, 4 not specified

First Year Students Surveyed

- 22 students were surveyed
- 17 Transferring
- 14 Transferring in state 3 Transferring out of state
- 11 of the 22 Transferring to community colleges

Second Year Student Survey Results

- 35 Non Returning Students
- 29 Male 6 Female
- 25 In State 10 Out of State
- 33 from Missouri and surrounding states, 7 from Phelps county and surrounding counties
- AVG ACT 25.71
- AGT GPA 2.69
- White 31, Asian 0, Black/African American 1, Hispanic/Latino 2, not specified 1

Second Year Students Surveyed

- 21 Students Surveyed
- 18 Transferring
- 12 Transferring In State
- 6 Transferring out of State
- 5 of the 18 Transferring to a community college

B. HGR Student Survey – Due to time constraints, this report was not made. A copy of the report will be distributed to the committee via email.

C. 2008-09 Retention Committee Annual Report - The DRAFT copy of the Retention Committee annual report will be distributed to the committee via email for review. Once approved, the report will be presented to the Chancellor at the beginning of the fall semester.

The meeting was adjourned