

MINUTES

Missouri S&T Retention Committee Meeting

January 14, 2010

8:15-9:15 AM

Members Present: Harvest Collier, Gayatri Bhatt, Tyrone Davidson, Larry Gragg, , Mary Ellen Kirgan, C.R. Thulasi Kumar (Alissa Fleck), Rance Larsen, F. Scott Miller, Lee-Ann Morton, Stephen Raper, Kristi Schulte, Carol Smith, Lynn Stichnote, Laura Stoll, Summer Young

Members Absent: Jay Goff, Sunnie Hughes, Rachel Morris, Brad Starbuck and Amiel Weerasinghe

Guests: A welcome was given to Gayatri Bhatt as the new Assistant to the Vice Provost of Undergraduate Studies.

I. Review and Approval of Minutes

The committee members reviewed the minutes from the 12-17-09 meeting. A motion was made (S. Raper) and seconded (S. Young) to approve the minutes as submitted. The minutes were unanimously approved.

II. New Business

A. Discussed Strategic Planning Committee update and the Parent's action item. Family support person was NOT eliminated in tactical plan, despite the funding for 25%FTE being denied, the idea will carry forward. The decision is to give it an "R" (revised status) for now.

B. Review of Strategic/Tactical Plan Action Items Adoption

Mary Ann Koen provided an update of Action Item 1.2.9 part 1—"Developing the Advising Handbook" and copy of the PowerPoint is included in the e-file. **Committee Members** - Mary Ann Koen, Scott Miller, Mary Ellen Kirgan, Summer Young & Tyrone Davidson. A comparison was done between the components of the 35-page handbook from '92 - '93 and what is needed today. The goal is to update the practical information as an "on-line manual." Presentation's goal was to help answer the question, "Why advising and what is good advising from both an advisor and student viewpoint?"

Two-Prong Approach to help shift the culture to Advising as Teaching...

For students:	For advisors:
--Emphasize they must play an active role by demonstrating self responsibility to map out their path	--Realize advising is the single most important factor for retention and satisfaction
--Ask, what rewards do they want from their career?	--Know that advising carries a social responsibility to help meet the workforce needs of Rolla, our state and world.
--Partner with advisors, a "tag" team approach	--Partner with students, a "tag" team approach
	--Know that core values guide their work (NACADA)

NACADA. (2005). NACADA statement of core values of academic advising. Retrieved January 25, 2010 from the *NACADA Clearinghouse of Academic Advising Resources* Web site:

<http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/Clearinghouse/AdvisingIssues/Core-Values.htm>

Harvest Collier indicated the approach of Advising as Teaching will also be beneficial for the work being done to re-establish the relationship with NSF LSAMP for alliance members.

Larry Gragg asked, "Is there something common with probation and deficient students?" Mary Ann Koen shared the lack of contact with an advisor and lack of relationship with the student.

Committee members discussed methods to begin the relationship between students and advisors: Lynn Stichnote asked, "Can anything be sent to the student or advisor in advance?" Perhaps a written inventory of questions would make introverted advisors more comfortable. There is also a concern about the disconnect between knowing what resources are available and where/how to best direct students for extra help across the various campus offices/services. The FE 10 assignment goes into the advisor's folder and could be a good starting point for relationship building. One tool that could be used is to establish early on what is the instructor's responsibility and what is the student's responsibility. A less intrusive question could be "What do you want me to know about you?" The hurdles are not always intellect or ability. Sometimes it's coping skills. If a student encounters something they didn't expect, sometimes they don't know how to recover.

Committee members discussed in a perfect world advising would be: The ultimate goal is to move to an electronic advising "folder." Perhaps some faculty should not be advisors and the campus should decide if there is an opt-in or a requirement by all. Missouri S&T is the only UM Campus that doesn't have a Professional Advising Model and part of what is currently being done is working and other parts are not. Summer Young shared this will be further impacted as enrollment increases and agrees with a hybrid model and approaching this as an "Advising Team"

Next steps for continuous quality improvements for advising: Will be informed by the January advising survey Student Council is conducting and results will be ready later this spring.

C. Shared The Delta Cost Project. Harvest Collier shared this calculator might be a way to measure ROI (return on investment) for student success programs, as mentioned in the Provost Cabinet's meeting. www.deltacostproject.org .

III. Next Meeting: January 28, 2010- 8:15-9:15 AM, Silver & Gold room, Havener Center
It was recommended that Work Group #5, under the leadership of Lynn Stichnote present an update on the progress of its project, "Focus new financial aid resources to increase need-based student financial aid availability."

The meeting was adjourned.