

MINUTES

Missouri S&T Retention Committee Meeting

January 27, 2011

8:15-9:15 AM

Members Present: Harvest Collier, Tyrone Davidson, Cecilia Elmore, Anna Gaw, Larry Gragg, Katie Jackson, Mary Ellen Kirgan, Thulasi Kumar, F. Scott Miller, Rachel Morris, Will Perkins, Stephen Raper, Kristi Schulte, Lynn Stichnote, Laura Stoll, and Summer Young.

Members Absent: Jay Goff, Rance Larsen, Lee-Ann Morton, Stephanie Rostad, Michael Schwartz, Carol Smith, and Brad Starbuck.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The committee members reviewed the minutes from the 1-13-10 meeting. A motion was made (L. Gragg) and seconded (S. Raper) to approve the minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

I. Old Business—a) Review of Dec. 2nd presentation to the Chancellor

--This item was suspended until after new business in order to provide ample time for the FSSE presentation.

b) Reminder of Work Groups

--The Family Workgroup will present an overview of their semester assessment for Fall 2010 at the February 10th meeting.

II. New Business

--Dr. Thulasi Kumar (Director of S&T's Institutional Research and Assessment Office) provided a presentation of the Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) for Missouri S&T. This is the first time that Missouri S&T faculty have participated in this parallel survey for First-Year Students and for Senior level students. It was noted that 185 faculty responded to the survey out of the 457 invitations sent. Dr. Kumar's presentation related an overview of the key questions S&T faculty responded to relative to the same questions that S&T students responded to in the NSSE survey. The survey sought to provide course-related faculty perceptions and the expectations of student engagement in educational practices that are empirically linked with high-level learning and development. As outcomes, the report revealed how often students engage in different activities, the importance faculty place on various areas of learning and development, the nature and frequency of interactions faculty have with students, and how faculty members organize their time.

In summary, key "difference" (where the perceptions of faculty and student varied most) items of Communication, Expectations, and Fundamental Learning were noted. This observation prompted brief discussion of the need to consider providing stronger orientation to students about expectations for achievement and how these expectations may be met.

Next Meeting: February 10, 2011 at 8:15 am; presentation will be made by Katie Jackson on the Family Semester Assessment as the Family Workgroup update.

The meeting was adjourned.