

MERIT NOTES

March 6, 2015

Present: Beth Hogeland, Pam Gordon, Justin Smith, Andrew Feldman, Christy Stevens, Bruce Clemetsen, Richenda Hawkins, Katie Winder, Darci Dance, Guest: Kathy Chafin

Notes: Annette Easdale

During the summer, MERIT will look at our progress on our core themes. Councils focus on specific things. We are first group to look at data. Information funnels down to the Leadership Retreat, at the end of summer, where they decide what to continue or start. Strategic funds are saved for this purpose. During the year, we need to make sure councils are tracking information.

1) **Diversity Council Update** - Richenda

They are about ready to roll out a survey to all credit students spring term. They were wondering if they should use an incentive for completing the survey? Popcorn coupon from the bookstore has been successful in the past.

2) **Council Report**

Workforce Economic Vitality Council - Ann Buchele

They are focused on the Economic Vitality Theme.

Their council is new this year and have only met twice. Still working on membership and their website is going live today. The council is divided into a lot of subgroups. See handout for summary of the objectives of the workgroups. Items listed on this handout are ideas only as a beginning point.

Advisory Committee Workgroup - They are thinking about going back to the Fall dinner that also serves as their first advisory meeting of the year. They want to work on making stronger connections with employers. Would like to get major local employers on an advisory committee and encourage loyalty to hire our students.

High School Connections Workgroup - Would like to increase marketing of CTE programs & jobs to high school students. Would like faculty to be able to visit high schools more often.

Are CWE skills being checked off in the workplace?

Topic - Advising - Kathy Chafin

80% of students are being advised in their first term. 45% were in DG fall term. (28% last year)

70% of advisors took notes in AdvisorTrac. This does not speak to quality of the advising. All advisors are not using AdvisorTrac. Recording student visits is helpful. They should also upload education plans.

There will be a new entry process that is directed more to be based on placement. More students will probably be enrolled in developmental classes in the fall. Black Friday this year will encourage students to see advisor before they register. Planning for a "Plancake Breakfast" & "Are you ready?" theme.

Barriers:

Many other schools are using Degree Works. It works well with Banner. It would replace Degree Runner and AdvisorTrac and cost about \$200,000. Would cost about \$100,000 this year and \$100,000 next year to implement it if we had enough IT staff. Degree Works would take 1-1.5 years to implement. Other schools implement a team that only works on this for 2 years. Title III Grants can maybe be used to fund this.

Need more training on advising for faculty. Spring term they will be talking to random faculty about how it is going and get feedback.

The Advising Team needs to focus on things that they can collect data on for future Accreditation Reporting. What should we focus on and invest time in that will show change that's recordable? (SENSE data out winter term) Is there a way to see how many made an Education Plan their 1st term? There is no way to know unless they ask the DG instructors because it is required in class. They should be uploading it in AdvisorTrac.

Data -

Black Friday 1st year and 2nd year retention?

College Scheduler - if they use this to register they are more likely to register for 2 more credits/term than those that don't use it. This software works out a schedule for you according to the student's needs.

OSU/DPP - first real year, Winter had 111 appointments

For the Report

Use things from Fall or early Winter. Get reports from ongoing projects. Write during Spring term or early Summer of 2016.

Homework was : Look over Report Card for Cultural Richness

<http://www.linnbenton.edu/files/dmfile/CulturalRichnessReportCard2.pdf>

COUNCIL REPORT

TOPIC

First Meeting Winter

Diversity Council

ATD to scale

March 6 - Second Meeting Winter

Workforce Economic Vitality Council

Advising

April 3 - First Meeting Spring

Academic Affairs Council -Sally Moore

Reading/Placement - Bruce/Danny/Pam

May 8 - Second Meeting Spring

Progression Council

Math/Placement

Future Meetings: Friday, April 3, and Friday, May 8 all in the Boardrooms @ 1:00-3:00 p.m.