

No Excuses 2020 Team Meeting

March 24, 2017
Dutton Hall, 103
9:00 a.m.

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Austin – Chair, Janet Barton, Carol Bevel, Claudie Biggers, Diane Brice, Edythe Carter, Tamara Clunis, Wes Condray, Cara Crowley, Lyndy Forrester, Alan Kee, Olga Kleffman, Terry Kleffman, Russell Lowery-Hart, Jarrod Madden, Penny Massey, Kelly Prater, Steve Smith, Collin Witherspoon, and Reem Witherspoon

Student Representative: Logan Nelson

Others Present: Kristin McDonald-Willey, Recorder: Carolyn Leslie

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kevin Ball, Nancy Forrest, Chris Hays, Jordan Herrera, and Mark Rowh

STUDENT SUCCESS DATA - (Collin Witherspoon)

- Collin Witherspoon gave a report showing data on student success rates.
 - In spring 2016, the overall student success rate for all courses was 79.47% with 20.53% of students being unsuccessful. There was an increase in the success rate in eight week courses with the student success rate being 81%. The overall success rate remained at 79%. The second eight weeks showed a slight drop in success rates.
 - The fall 2016 semester nearly doubled in enrollment and improvement in student success rates for the first eight week courses. There was still a slight issue with the second eight week courses in success rates but enrollment continued to increase.
- Collin addressed an area of concern with first time college students. Data was presented beginning in fall 2013. Students who completed a degree, certificate, or transferred to a four year college or university in any of the successive terms after the first term, were removed from the data pool. Students who were in high school, and had only taken dual credit courses were also removed from the data. The remainder of the students were evaluated beginning in fall 2013 for six terms.
 - The data showed that after the first semester, 25% of first time students had dropped by spring of 2014. By fall of 2015, 40% of first time college students were no longer enrolled. This downward trend of first time students not continuing, slowed down after the first year. The downward trend did not seem to be due to academic probation. An overwhelming majority of first time students, who were on academic probation, returned when they were eligible.
 - Demographic groups were evaluated to see if certain groups of students were most affected by this trend. The top two groups of students who dropped courses were also the top two groups for enrollment, which were Hispanic and white students. In the first semester, both male and female students dropped out. By the second semester, there were more female students who dropped courses. Students who enrolled part-time the first semester, were more likely to not return. Students who enrolled full-time were more successful. The largest age group of students who did not continue were 19 years old and younger. There was a significant increase of older students dropping in later terms. Pell grant status did not seem to be a factor in 25% of first time college students not continuing, but socioeconomic data relating to this is not available except in relation to the Pell grant.
 - The remainder of the terms were evaluated. The first term in 2014 showed no change with a 25% decline and 40% decline by the second term. The fall 2015 and fall 2016 terms also showed no change.
- A cause as to the trend of 25% of first time students dropping after the first term and 40% dropping after the second term has not been determined. However, a predictor of students who are

unsuccessful has been identified. There is a correlation between students who take one or more of a set of 10 top courses and fail, then do not return to college. The 10 courses identified were:

- English 1301
 - Education 1100
 - Math 1314
 - Speech 1318
 - History 1301
 - Psychology 2301
 - Math 0302
 - Speech 1315
 - Biology 2401
 - Math 0303
- An action plan which focuses on the retention alert system for the 10 top courses, has been discussed based on this data. A retention alert will be sent out if a student begins not showing up for one of these classes, and intervention will begin sooner. Evaluation of this process will begin with the fall 2017 cohort. A retention alert will continue being sent out for students having problems with other courses. Since this system is so overwhelming, the focus will remain with the top 10 courses.
 - Collin has also developed a risk factor value system to help identify a student's risk in non-completion. The value is based on all available data for the purpose of contacting higher risk students. This model will be discussed in the completion committee meeting.
 - The champion/coaches model will also be considered as a tool to help the higher risk students.

SURVEY – (Lyndy Forrester)

- Lyndy Forrester discussed a survey that was sent to a random selection of AC employees by The Chronicle of Higher Education. Amarillo College has applied for the "Great Colleges to Work For" program. Dr. Lowery-Hart will send an email out to employees on March 27th explaining the survey and stressing the importance of completing and submitting the survey. The Chronicle sent the survey out prematurely so Lyndy will check with them to see if it can be resent to the same AC employees.

DISCUSSION OF NO EXCUSES COMMITTEE – (Russell Lowery-Hart)

- Dr. Lowery-Hart led a discussion on the effectiveness and purpose of the No Excuses 20/20 committee. This committee was originally formed to meet requirements of Achieving the Dream. Policies were discussed and implemented in the original committee. Currently, issues are discussed in Cabinet meetings, Completion Committee meetings, and other groups more specific to the issue. The No Excuses 20/20 committee consists of members from all employee groups in the college, and can be helpful in getting feedback from employees on various issues. There will be further consideration by Dr. Lowery-Hart as to the continuation of the committee.
- The topic of discussion at the May meeting will be online courses.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION – (COMMITTEE MEMBERS)

- Cara Crowley will be involved in a pilot program with Achieving the Dream. Stanford has developed a survey to help students determine why they are in college. The Completion Committee is looking at this survey.
- Diane Brice discussed the "No Late Registration Policy". This policy seems to mean different things to different people which causes problems for the students. Dr. Clunis suggested that data be brought to committee as to the number of students who circumvent the "No Late Registration Policy". The data will be brought before the No Excuses committee.
- Edie Carter is a finalist for the Innovation award for her work in Developmental Education.
- The Board of Regents Election is May 6th.
- The faculty pay model is currently being worked on. Dr. Lowery-Hart would like for the Faculty Senate to make a recommendation to the Cabinet. The pay model will be implemented in the fall semester.

ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

- April 28, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in Dutton Hall, 103.

Recorder: Carolyn Leslie

Carolyn Leslie