

Achieving the Dream

Core Team Meeting

August 14, 2014

Present:

Dr. Jeremy McMillen
Dr. Regina Organ
Ms. Barbara Malone
Ms. Carla Fanning
Dr. Chase Machen
Ms. Dayna Ford
Dr. Debbie Smarr
Dr. Keri Harvey
Mr. Leon Deutsch
Mr. Mark Taylor
Ms. Shelle Cassell
Mr. Daniel Nickeson

Minutes

1. Common Read Update

The common read texts have arrived. Leon is working on a syllabus. The syllabus will be provided along with identifying group discussion leaders. College personnel will be able to schedule their group discussion using the CWL website scheduling services. Dr. McMillen suggested that GC reach out to Region 10 to see if there are any trainers in the area (especially in the Sherman/Denison school districts).

2. Data Summit Update

No feedback has been received from Linda or Rene, so the proposed agenda has not changed since last week. Dr. Machen suggested that Dr. Smarr meet with the Deans and to discuss what the plans are for the data summit so the information is more streamlined (and not duplicated).

3. Assessment Survey

Dr.Smarr provided a Course Level Assessment Survey (see handout) to be used by all faculty. Dr.Smarr will email this to the Deans/Chairs so they can appropriately distribute to all faculty. Dr.Machen will receive data to analyze and report on later to the Core Team.

Recommendation: Include addendum to the Assessment Survey to inform faculty to send their detailed syllabi that specifies all assignments. Classes to be analyzed should be what a typical freshman would register for such as English 1301, Govt 2305, Learning Frameworks, Math 1314, and Hist 1301. In the report, we need to include a bibliography of what research says about often/timely feedback, attendance, etc. Suggestion was to add “Does this particular assignment require writing?”.

Dr.McMillen asked Dr.Smarr to contact Southwest Texas and ask them to assist with scantrons.

Find out where GC is on the technology aspect for reporting 3, 8, and 16 week absence reports.

4. Kick-Off Event Update

Leon did not receive any recommendations to the agenda since he provided it last week. Dr.McMillen asked that an aggregate list of questions for him to ask Linda during the Kick Off event. Please send your questions to Dava.

5. Student Panel for AtD Kickoff

Leon has received some student stories and has some leads/contact information. His idea is to have two students who have completed school and two students currently enrolled.

What is the purpose of the student panel? GC will provide an individual to interview and lead the questions. Leon suggested that we have the questions and do a trial run with the students prior to the actual AtD Kickoff. Leon will email the GC Faculty and see if they would allow him to come visit

his/her class for about 30 minutes and then have a discussion with the students about what they like/dislike about that particular class.

6. AtD Scholarship

Develop the scholarship and provide it to the public for donations.

Dr.McMillen added that there may be monies available from outsourcing the bookstore that could be used. An idea would be to have faculty identify students who would benefit from such a scholarship opportunity.

7. Student Success Through a Policy Lens Working Group Recommendations

8. “What Excellent Community Colleges Do” Chapter 1 Discussion

Dr.Machen commented that his thoughts on Chapter 1 included that advising and programs/tracks are extremely important. His believe GC is on-track/having the conversations on following the same successful tracts that the 9 highlighted community colleges are in the book.

Dr.McMillen noted the piece pertaining to the success of students who completed 25% of their program of study in the first year. He is curious of what Grayson’s percentage is and suggested that Dr.Smarr contact Rene to receive assistance to collect our data.

Read Chapter 2 by next meeting. Please email Dr.Smarr a bullet list of interesting points from the chapter to use as discussion points.

9. Planning Document Discussion and Approval by Core Team

Dr. Organ provided the “Achieving the Dream: 2014 Template for Planning Year Work Plan.” This document is due in August. Dr.Organ will work with each of the Core Team members to complete the document. Once the form is completed, Dr.Organ will email for the team to review prior to submitting to AtD.

For Item 3 on the template (Examine existing institutional policies and practices), Dr. Smarr provided a working document to the Core Team. The

persons included in the review groups should not only be the ‘expected ones.’” The point is to review the policy area for accuracy and to also voice areas of improvement. Dr.Smarr asked the Core Team if there are suggestions on who should be included in the Review Group? Please provide recommendations/revision to Dr.Smarr. The Review groups will need to be established and communicated by the last week of September.

Action:

Provide Dr.McMillen with a full list of faculty and what committees they are involved in (especially highlight those faculty who are not on any committees).

Dr.Organ would like to have a sub-group of this committee to help provide direction when looking at Review Groups. Dr.Machen, Dr.Smarr, and Barbara Malone will assign/edit Reviewer Groups. Dr.McMillen has asked Dr.Organ to see what Linda and Rene’s thoughts on this process. The charge of the Reviewer’s group is to determine whether or not the policy exists, is it being followed, etc.

September 3rd at 8:30 am

September 17 at 8:30 am

10.Next Steps

- a. August 2014 Planning Year Work Plan due
- b. November 15, 2014: 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 academic year data due
- c. February 2015 Dream Due
- d. March 2015 DRAFT Implementation Proposal due
- e. April 2015 Colleges receive feedback on draft Implementation Proposals
- f. May 2015 Final Implementation Proposal and contact sheet due