

PIE Council Minutes
November 15, 2013
1:30pm
Welty Board Room

Members Present: Marty Hatton (Chair), Kate Brown, Nora Corrigan, Brenda Dickey, Wesley Garrett, Maridith Geuder, Dave Haffly, Erin Kempker, Tim Mbogo, Jennifer Miles, Nora Miller, Sirena Parker, Ross Whitwam, Nick Wright, Cathy Young, Todd Gale, Nancy Wheelley

Members Absent: Jim Borsig, April Coleman, Luke Cooper, Alexei Huguley, Rusty King, Brandy Larmon, Carla Lowery

Approval of the October 18, 2013 minutes: A motion to accept the minutes was made by Nora Miller, and Dave Haffly. Motion carried.

Enrollment and Retention – Dr. Jennifer Miles

- Dr. Miles gave PIE council an update on meetings with Noel Levitz
- PIE is aware of planning across campus
- In 2012 an Enrollment Management Task Force was formed
- Enrollment Opportunity Analysis
- Recruitment & Retention - consultants from Noel Levitz were asked to come to campus – six visits were contracted of which the first three were for recruitment and the second three for retention
- These visits have been very data driven, with the data coming from MUW. Noel Levitz then set up persons responsible for follow-up and deadlines were assigned – nothing to slip through the cracks
- Noel Levitz is very intensive on retention from an Academic Affairs standpoint
- The next two visits are scheduled for Monday, November 18th, and Tuesday, November 19th.
 - Monday, November 18th - Dr. Kate Brown will present information on retention and Shelley Moss for recruitment.
 - Tuesday, November 19th – Enrollment Management Task Force – role to be defined for both recruitment and retention
 - After these visits, we should know where we are and what needs to be done to move forward.
- Male focus group – specify recruitment piece for males
- Restructure of staff in Admissions
- Will no longer have Scholarship Day or McDevitt Day – within 3-5 days of a student applying and being admitted, a packet is sent and an award made – there will be a recognition day for those receiving awards – for incoming freshmen ACT & GPA is reviewed, for transfers GPA

- Discovery days
- Have met with Deans, Dept. chairs, and others to try new things and a new structure – aware that not all will work, but at least try
- University Relations – consistent with all publications
- Members of PIE Council invited to attend the November 19th meeting with Noel Levitz
- Reports issued after each visit and actions to be developed prior to next visit

Cathy Young thanked Dr. Miles and others involved with this. It has been beneficial to implement as it occurs rather than waiting to get all reports.

Dave Haffly asked once the report is received and in place, what are the expected success rates? Dr. Miles responded that even before Noel Levitz there were a lot of success stories. As the university develops as a team, overall goals for the institution will be seen. Dr. Hatton stated that there is a tab on the PIE website and also a PIE “class” in Blackboard that are both sources for the finalized plans and processes.

SACSCOC & QEP Update – Dr. Hatton

- Many activities, planning is the key focus – plan infers finality, planning is a sign of ongoing
- Multiple ongoing planning processes
- He encouraged PIE members to review the entire SACS document even though the focus of PIE is institutional effectiveness
- Planning handled by a different group – change in policy for two groups
 - Planning Council
 - Institutional Effectiveness Council
- SMART & ACTION plans both have needs to improve and automate
- Waiting on response from Ellucian to see if any software changes may be required
- What are we assessing? Where are we strong and where are there holes? No other single body holistic at all of this.
- Strategic Planning
 - Who
 - What
 - How

IE Redesign - Dr. Hatton

- Dr. Richardson, C. Lowery, Dr. Hatton – travel plans for January & February – policy rewrite to be completed by March 1
- Looked at peer institutions and found some surprising results after the numbers were plugged in. Looked at
 - Institutional Effectiveness

- Assessment
- Best Practices
- Redesign of Institutional Effectiveness Council – Dr. Borsig to review the policy statement and a draft available by March 1
- Key question is “how do we improve our assessment of institutional effectiveness and build a culture of continuous improvement”?

General Comments:

- Dr. Kempker was pleased that Bridge to Nowhere was one of the handouts in October’s meeting. This material covers closed remedial classes as opposed to pull out classes, and ACT supplemental instruction. Do we currently track first generation students?
 - Aware that PELL has hard limits – if core classes could begin sooner, students could possibly complete their degree in the required time limit. As it is now, with the first year being used for the remedial classes, it causes the process to be longer.
 - Suggested a strong mentoring program
- Dr. Hatton was unsure if there is a measure of this.
- Dr. Corrgian added that when you have a closed class of all weak students, example given of basic comp, they cannot learn from stronger students, which they could, if not separated.
- Dr. Brown stated that a retention piece should be available in 2½ weeks. Peer mentoring has been mentioned. Five areas have been the focus:
 - Advising
 - Orientation
 - Student Engagement
 - Academic Engagement
 - Center for Academic Excellence
 - There are 3-5 goals per group, with plans to be put into place. Feedback is not only welcome, but necessary.
 - The role of advisors is pivotal. Must be seen as more than just a registering for classes
- Dr. Dickey asked about the possibility of a supplemental and mentoring model. One where faculty and students work together as a module. Currently, some do not have the specific supplemental skills needed.
- Dr. Hatton – must be better tracking of students and how they progress. Then feed this information back into the process. Do not want one process overlapping another, and the same work being duplicated.
- Maridith Geuder – in one of the handouts, one of the PELL issues is that it is geared to 12 hours, possibly an a la carte rate would be helpful
 - Can anyone say we take outcomes and this is how we are going to improve

- Nora Miller – with a lower hourly rate, fixed price at 15 hours rather than 12, encourage students to take 15 hours