

Student Success and Retention Council
Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2015

Members present: Jonathan Glenn (Chair), Amber Hall, Ashley Ross, Ben Rowley, Chad Hearne, Angela Jackson, Julia Winden Fey, Don Bradley, LeighAnn Denhartog

Members absent: Susan Sobel, Nancy Gallavan, Jacob Held, Stephanie McBrayer

Guests: John Fincher, Phillip Spivey, Lisa Christman

Glenn called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm

Members should feel empowered to send a well-informed proxy when they will be absent. Offices should be represented at each meeting.

Bradley made a motion to approve the minutes from the SSRC meeting on February 5, 2015. Hearne seconded the motion. Motion passed, 7 in favor, 1 abstention. Minutes will be posted on the website.

Glenn welcomed Admissions Committee members Spivey and Christman. Spivey summarized the proposed Fall 2016 admission requirements: raise minimum ACT to 17, with subscores to 15 and high school GPA to 2.45. President Courtway charged the committee with creating even more aggressive requirements to grow enrollment and improve graduation and retention rates. Spivey indicated the committee is worried about the impact such aggressive standards could have on diversity. Discussion followed.

Winden Fey voiced concern about pushing for more aggressive increases before we know the impact of the new admission requirements already in place for Fall 2015. Discussion followed.

Ross stated that the University needs to focus on graduation rates. Glenn stated that the first priority is student success – retention and graduation rate increases will follow.

Denhartog is working to rebrand UCA and create new to strategies for recruiting in response to changing admissions criteria. Discussion followed.

Ross, Bradley and Rowley recommended an endorsement for the proposed admission standards from SGA, Faculty Senate and SSRC. Glenn asked Rowley to draft for the March 5th SSRC meeting a document that can be circulated for endorsement among the senates.

Glenn reminded “wranglers” that subgroup assignments are due by March 2nd.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.

/sm

