

Student Success and Retention Council
June 16, 2016

The Student Success and Retention Council (SSRC) met in regular session at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 16, 2016. Steve Runge (chair) presided, and the following individuals were present: Julia Winden Fey, Jacob Held, Leigh Ann DenHartog, Stephanie McBrayer, Amber Hall, Courtney Mullen, Angela Webster-Smith, Patricia Smith, Kaye McKinzie, Ryan Pfaff as proxy for Kelsey Broaddrick, and John Fincher.

- 1) The SSRC minutes of April 21, 2016 and May 19, 2016 were approved.
- 2) L.A. DenHartog provided an update on Summer Orientation and Academic Registration (SOAR).
 - SOAR International sessions are full, there is still availability at this time in other SOAR sessions.
 - 652 advising appointments made so far
 - 2,516 advising appointment slots are available
 - 300 transfer advising appointments are available

Discussion followed.

- 3) J. Winden Fey provided copies of the draft Report on the UCA Enrollment Management Retention Plan and provided an overview of the document. Discussion followed regarding the outstanding data needs, and committee members were asked to get any requested data to J. Winden Fey no later than July 30th. Committee members were also asked to review the document and provide feedback on format or content in the next few weeks. Once the report is complete, it will be shared with the president and made accessible on the university website.
- 4) S. Runge led a discussion regarding the black male retention initiative and provided an overview of the document summarizing the recent meeting on this subject. Discussion followed regarding the following priorities:
 - Include a 3-hour FYS course in the UCA Core to be required for all conditionally admitted students;
 - Increase the work-study budget to keep working students on campus and engaged;
 - Designate a full-time success coach;
 - Provide an orientation experience for late admitted students;
 - Establish a scholarship for Pell eligible students to assist with the purchase of textbooks; and
 - Require students to live on campus for the first two-years (instead of the current first-year requirement).

- 5) S. Runge provided an update on the strategic plan budget priorities. At this time, it is unknown which, and how many, of the priorities will be funded.
- 6) Member Reports:
- Amber Hall stated that she and Rebecca Stage, Research Associate in the Office of Institutional Research, have been working on a significant amount of data that affect retention;
 - S. McBrayer stated that Thomas Bruick, Assistant Director for Research Initiatives, is currently at a Mapworks conference and has learned we can now put all students into the system.
 - C. Mullen stated:
 - The Office of Admissions website has been improved and is now more user-friendly;
 - Work is ongoing for next year's publications, and these publications will be distributed to students in 8th through 12th grade;
 - Approximately 14,000 emails were sent out early to students;
 - Staff are reaching out to admitted students to make advising appointments;
 - The recruitment retreat is scheduled for next Friday; and
 - Preview days have been improved (Bear Facts Day and Distinguished Scholars Day will now offer different experiences).
 - J. Fincher stated that the first year using the Skyfactor Benchworks platform for 11 different areas on campus is wrapping up. A summary of the data is forthcoming and may prove useful for many areas/groups on campus.
 - P. Smith stated that the Honors College has so far retained 100% of last year's class and the four and six year graduation rates have increased.
 - J. Winden Fey stated that Charlotte Strickland, Professional Development and Training Coordinator, is considering the development of a student retention and compliance workshop for faculty and staff. Also, a Monday start for classes is under consideration (the logistics of how that would work needs to be determined).

The meeting adjourned at 4:27pm