

Student Success and Retention Council  
Meeting Minutes  
March 17, 2016

Members present: Julia Winden Fey (Acting Chair), Jacob Held, Ben Rowley, Angela Jackson, Nancy Gallavan, Cheryl Lyons, Susan Sobel, Amber Hall, Stephanie McBrayer, Leigh Ann Denhartog, and Cindy Lea for Patricia Smith

Members absent: Kaye McKinzie, Colin Stanton, Zach Carter

Guests: Thomas Bruick, John Fincher, Angela Webster-Smith, Camille Shepherd

Dr. Winden Fey called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm

Business:

1. Dr. Gallavan made a motion to approve the minutes from the SSRC meetings on January 21 and February 18. Ms. Hall seconded the motion. Motion passed, all in favor.
2. Dr. Winden Fey provided the proposed changes to the Faculty Handbook concerning the new structure and reporting line for the SSRC.
3. Dr. Held reported on his recent trip to the University of Northern Iowa to learn more on integrating MAPWorks with FYS courses. UCA hopes to model Iowa's program which contributed to significant growth in their retention rates. Components of the pilot program scheduled to begin this fall at UCA will include enhanced mentoring along with a new leadership course EDUC 2310 for credit by the SI leaders, success coaches, peer mentors and sophomore mentors. Dr. Winden Fey mentioned the overlap existing among these numerous leadership positions and that perhaps sharing resources could result in training even more student leaders. Dr. Winden Fey will schedule a follow up meeting with Fincher, Webster-Smith and Stanton concerning student leadership training opportunities.
4. Dr. Winden Fey shared the proposed SSRC Annual Report. Members voiced their support of the document. Drs. Winden Fey and Glenn will present the report to Faculty Senate on April 12.
5. Other Business / Roundtable:
  - a. The Arkansas Student Success Symposium was a huge success. Next year will mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Dr. Winden Fey would like to reach out to high school administrators and superintendents, but space limitations continue to be a problem.
  - b. Financial Aid staff working to eliminate excess paperwork for students.
  - c. Graduation and retention rates are now listed on the IR website. The search for a statistician is back on.
  - d. Mr. Bruick reported that success coaching is going well for targeted populations such as UCAN, transfer students and students-at-risk.
  - e. Dr. Webster-Smith reported that funds are available for diversity related research, activities or programs.

- f. Dr. Shepherd indicated that UCA will continue to use Smartevals to evaluate both faculty *and* academic advisors.
- g. Ms. Jackson mentioned up-coming graduation events for minority and underrepresented students.
- h. The Honors College will have its most diverse class to date this fall.
- i. Students with disabilities will have their own SOAR this summer.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15pm

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Massey