



**Achieving the Dream Core Team/Strategic Plan Goal Two Meeting
August 15, 2012 2-3:30 pm – SC213**

Minutes

Attendees: Bill Heineman, Lane Glenn, Melba Acevedo, Peter Dulchninos, Lynda Gagnon, Richard Lizotte, Karen Mitchell, Dawna Perez, Janice Rogers, Nora Sheridan, Ellen Grondine, Linda Shea, Lynne Nadeau

1. Plans for Academic Year 2012-2013 – Bill Heineman reported that the original ATD grant has come to an end and that the core team would be changing some of its activities to reflect the growth and development of our student success efforts. He said that in addition to being a core team, the group is now a college strategic plan team as well.

A. New Teams & FYE Team taking on Early Alert - At the last meeting it was decided to phase out two long term teams:

- Math strategy team has been phased out - will continue its work within the departments.
- Advising team has been phased out – academic plans and DegreeWorks is institutionalized and will continue in CPAC and with faculty advisors.
- FYE team will continue. CSS will continue and Early Alert initiative has been moved under the FYE umbrella.
- Culture & Equity team has been created – to work on differences in academic performance by gender, age, ethnicity, etc. and work on strategies.
- New team (not yet named) – will focus on student success in gateway courses outside of math and writing (focus on Psychology, Sociology & Biology) particularly with respect to student reading skills

B. PRESS for Completion Grant – New grant - \$100K to be paid over the next 2 years. Will do the following:

- i. **Hold Think Team meetings** – will have 5 over the next 3 weeks to get new people in the room, generate new ideas and recruit new people for student success work.
- ii. **Kickoff Event on Sept. 17** at the President’s general staff meeting. Developing an interactive activity. New technical assistant Kent Farnsworth will be here (and for 2 days after). He will be at our next Core Team meeting on Sept. 19.

iii. Proposed grant work includes the following:

- Scale up CSS – put resources in training faculty
- Scale up SI – need to make decisions after Rick’s presentation
- Early Alert – think about how to expand and fund it
- Research mini grants – data team will work on and possibly own this faculty and staff driven research effort on student success

2) Report on NECC Collaborations with K-12 Schools – Ellen Grondine

- Suggested the group take a look at the Strategic Plan website. Groups will be meeting again in September when faculty return.
- There is a lot of momentum and attention around partnerships. She is trying to respond quickly – sometimes it involves just a conversation, sometimes a tour. Funnel all K-12 related questions to Ellen, she follows up immediately and is tracking inquiries.
- A lot of interest in what it means to be career ready
- Donna Bertolino has been talking to the high schools about Accuplacer. Helps them to identify and understand results in order to create next steps for students.
- Principals are interested in CSS. There has been talk that this start in Middle School.

3) Report on Supplemental Instruction Focus Groups – Rick Lizotte

Bill Heineman said that the first 3 years of SI numbers went up. The 4th year they didn’t. The SI session attendance data doesn’t support the student success numbers. He invited Rick Lizotte to report on two SI focus groups for SI leaders and faculty that were held this summer to determine what might be happening to explain the difference between the good student success numbers and the bad student SI session numbers.

- Leaders were active members of class, helped students with material and group work, observed body language to see where students were struggling in order to prepare sessions, and used different methods to explain course material.
- They tutored students outside the session at various times; however, it worked best when sessions were immediately following the class.
- Students were not always given proper information at registration. Some students didn’t need SI.
- Faculty members need to know ahead of time that they have SI sections; many are assigned to teach the course late. It would be helpful if faculty member was chosen earlier.
- Leaders need training in how to lead a group and how to redirect students. Getting material in advance would be helpful. Goal for fall is more training.
- Attendance of SI session is not the only indicator as SI also happens in the classroom
- Need measures of success besides grades or attendance –namely, the skills developed for students in SI courses.
- Faculty members should raise awareness of SI in the classroom if SI students are doing better.
- SI’s are not just an “extra pair of hands”

Bill Heineman asked the group for their reaction:

- Janice Rogers suggested imbedded tutors
- Faculty should know and want to be in an SI session and trained.

- Faculty should set and track goals (E. Grondine)
- Space is a problem if sessions are held immediately following class (J. Rogers)
- Start with training – build a cohort of potential SI faculty (E. Grondine)
- Use quick card to evaluate students (K. Mitchell)
- Pick a pilot (E. Grondine)
- Supervisor should target faculty for SI sections (R. Lizotte)
- Be more selective with faculty – have them fill out a short application (L. Shea)
- Bill asked Janice, Linda and Lynne to come up with a proposal and focus on the application and pool that have been trained and are interested in SI. Try imbedded tutoring as a comparison; then a room for a separate SI section is not an issue.
- Bill asked if disciplines should be narrowed, perhaps focus on Math. Linda Shea suggested Reading, Janice Rogers suggested English Comp. Rubrics were suggested to measure student skills as an indication of SI success. Workload and money issues are attached to a rubric. Bill pointed out that Spring 2013 scheduling will start soon, so the applications would need to be developed fast along with the process.

4. Other Business

- Bill asked for recommendations for new student member(s). Please let him know if you have anybody in mind.
- Jane Bailey has ATD folders and Tri-folds with ATD information. Please let her know if you need any of this material.
- Lane Glenn asked the group for their input on the agenda for Fall Convocation on Sept. 4.

Next meeting is **Wed. Sept. 19 at 2:00 in SC213**, Kent Farnsworth will be joining us.