

Core Team Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

2:00-4:00 p.m.

President's Dining Room

1. Starting Student Success Proposal – Status and Next Steps (Mary Ellen Ashley)

Background: Mary Ellen Ashley and Nora Sheridan while visiting the ATD Strategy Institute assimilated what they knew about registration and orientation came up with a bold proposal which we put out to the college community. On the ATD blog (<http://blogs.necc.mass.edu/atd/>) there are 20 pages of feedback. There are posters going around campus saying it's now time to register for your classes -- the current student's registration: April 4 – May 5th, 2011 . We are sending out postcards to remind students that say: **Reminder:** it's time to get this done, etc. Jim likes communication that we are using. Mary Ellen remarked that the postcard is what they actually show up in line with; the postcard is a call to action. We also have a Facebook page, and starting to do Twitter, and email. Question raised: who will be responsible for revamp of Orientation? **Action Item: Mary Ellen will call the committee together and have a call to charge. She is planning to do this very soon. Some names were mentioned who might help get some faculty support: Trish Schade, Marcy Vozzella, Claire Thompson, and Lauri Gordy and members of the Academic Affairs Committee. The ATD core team would be a group that would help to channel – help steer academic policies. This group will help guide this.**

2. NECC Achieving the Dream Leadership – Who's next? With the President retiring and Lane Glenn, moving to new role we are looking ahead-- this is a good time to talk about what should the leadership of this group look like? We could ask the new VP of Academic Affairs or Rick Lizotte or you (the ATD Core Team-- to look within the institution. It is something we don't need to solve today. **What are your thoughts about leadership of this effort as we go ahead?**

- The heft of the VPAA position has been important. Rick Lizotte will complete to year 2012. It was suggested to make it part of the VP/AA interviews.

3. ATD Poster Campaign (& ATD Web site) : Ron Taber, Dawna Perez, Maggie Lucey

- Ron Taber led the discussion. He handed out samples of the Math Lab Poster and received input from the group. The Math Lab will be the first poster to be updated.

4. Advising Update – Grace Young, Nora Sheridan- When we were doing Fall 09 registration we did a survey to students and faculty to get their take on their experience. Degree Works is alive and turned on and is saving time. We have done 60 staff faculty training, health professions in their entirety. Two open lab sessions will be provided that folks can attend if they do not understand it. We began creating academic plans for students who have been accepted this semester. That will continue for all new students forward and will change processes in a major way as far as advising and registration. The process is getting smoother, we used to have two or three hour waits, this has been cut down significantly because we have separated populations of students and if they have plans it would be even quicker. **Action Item: We have created a User's Guide for faculty to use. A step by step guide how to practice. In the fall we will finish the other divisions training. We have developed two surveys around the manual and training experience. Nora and Grace will chart it out for Terri Manning. By next fall all will be using it.**

5. Annual Report – Rick Lizotte –Rick will be sending out a draft to get input. What is our greatest accomplishment and committed leadership all our leadership is on board? What else to add – we pride ourselves on distribution of leadership?

- The President's persistence attendance at ATD. In addition we believe it exists at every level. We are more proud of emerging and growing leadership; we brought a large group to strategy institute. The President can't imagine anyone coming up with a proposal that is not thoroughly researched and supports their position; there is a spillover to rest of college.

- NEASC accomplishment of the self study. On March 4th, David and Lane went before commission. David received a phone call that afternoon but could not talk about it until the letter arrived on April 4th. Ernie is preparing some materials we should feel fantastic about it as wonderful things were said.
- Terri Manning mentioned: using formative evaluation results from SI and surveys and stuff that you are doing that is formative suggest using it to inform practice.
- On the ATD site all research studies are there, transparency and openness helps the culture of evidence.
- Over the year we have had many successes, Rick asks which one we are going to pick. NEASC is so heavily focused on evaluation. (we can indicate everything but just pick one)
- Bottom up leadership: SFIGS
- Broad engagement: things that seem to reach largest number of people are the Degree Works effort and the College Success Skills effort. DW is a larger scale of intervention. It is not just about training also about selection, design and creation of process for getting there. There was a suggestion to wait and use Degree Works on next year's Annual Report because the students will then have been trained.
- Under what was your accomplishment of Engagement of faculty and staff in ATD terms? A suggestion was mad to use the College Success Seminar.
- Alternative engagement of entire math department common final exam= was very everyone was involved. Alternative thought mention both (as above) pick one with best numbers. When you add math tutoring it bumps up numbers of students affected. Engagement with CSS was across disciplines this is a better fit for this question.
- Under Systemic institutional improvement:
- Degree works touches whole systems faculty, advising and students.
- Policy changes that dramatically affect are:
- Three peat, elimination of grades and elimination of prerequisites, mandatory assessment.
- Challenges to leadership: This is probably a time to look at getting new people, suggestion more adjunct faculty involved.
- Institutional research staffing: look at getting more, there is a very limited staff, no IT support we need someone with a background in evaluation.

6. Jim Tsechtlin: MDRC also looked at building a culture of evidence if you haven't done that you haven't embraced what ATD means.

- Things to we are asking to do through ATD are:
 - **Make effective practice mandatory**
 - Stop late registration
 - Math refresher before assessment
 - Assessment
 - Placement
 - Orientation
 - Student success course for those not college ready
 - Advising (leading to a plan)
- You will see the stuff you have already done, or are planning to do. From standpoint these things pretty well known
- David Hartleb discussed an email he received from the Community College Research center from Tom Daly that he will send to the team. He suggesting we need to read that piece and think about it, it might change how we think about things.

Jim Tsechtlin did an exercise with the team asking 3 questions and asked for their response.

- What is your vision of NECC a year from now on ATD?
- Give your impression "**progressometer**" (your rating now level of progress NECC mph) institutional number
- How can the college accelerate the progress? Move it to a higher level?