Call to Order

Dr. Joyce Loveday called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 4, 2014 meeting were approved, as amended.

MOTION:
Claire Korschinowski

SECOND:
Ted Broussard

MOTION CARRIED.

DREAM 2014 Conference

The college sent six representatives to the DREAM Conference in Lake Buena Vista, Florida, February 23-27, 2014. Dr. Loveday invited those who attended to share a few highlights of the conference:

Kathi Medcalf talked about how important it is to student success to have contact with students before they step foot on campus. She learned about some compelling data that suggests that Dev-Ed courses not be taught online, and the importance (to student retention) of "patching up the leaks" in the Dev-Ed pipeline.

Core Team Meeting

March 4, 2014 – 3:00 P.M.

Building 21, Room 108
Wendy Joseph talked about the gap between how we, as educators, and students view financial aid. Despite a widespread belief that students "are adults" who should know how to handle money, many students are first-generation and don't come with this knowledge. Students view financial aid as a paycheck and often do not possess the skills to manage lump-sum payments. Top colleges that have found success in this are have moved away from lump-sum to incremental payments, helping students to better manage their money throughout the term. Students could benefit greatly from financial literacy training.

Kristin Martindale came away from the conference with a keen understanding of the connection between "a little affirmation" and students remaining in school. Students often interpret this affirmation as the very support needed to keep moving ahead.

Dr. Loveday came away from the conference with a new emphasis on the importance of the financial piece to student success. Students could benefit greatly from financial counseling throughout their college careers, possibly achieved through the use of "financial coaches". She also sees the importance of integration of all the elements involved (e.g. early alert system, various processes) to "the whole picture" so that they all flow together.

Dr. Loveday distributed "Aspirations to Achievement: Men of Color and Community Colleges" from the Center for Community College Student Engagement (CCCSE) for review and possible discussion at the next meeting.

STRATEGY TEAM/WORKGROUP UPDATES

College 101 (Linked Classes)

Kathi Medcalf reported that the strategy team is working on linking spring courses which will consist of 14 hours face-to-face and six hours online time. Thirty-one faculty and staff responded to teach COLL 101 and have begun training. There has been some discussion about making COLL 101 a mandatory course for all students; currently it is a requirement for those testing at the ENGL 82 level only. Some colleges require a similar course for all new students. The strategy team is also considering offering two separate versions of the course – one for computer-literate students and one for non-computer-literate students.

Developmental Math Strategy

Claire Korschinowski reported that math tutors have been hired to work in the classrooms so that students will receive more one-on-one attention. Dr. Loveday reported that feedback from the math initiative indicates additional training for faculty is needed. It is still to be determined whether students are being retained from the first to the second quarter.

Student Success

In regard to student success and testing, Kathi Medcalf said that evidence shows that eight to 16 hours of review may reduce poor testing scores by half. Some colleges place the top ten percent of those
testing into ENG 082

directly into ENG 094,
since a quick review is all that is needed to bring them up to that level.

Equity and Access

Wendy Joseph distributed two handouts: 1) results of the ATD Access and Equity faculty survey, and 2) a position description (proposal) for a Chief Diversity Officer. Sixty nine faculty members responded to the survey. The proposal has not gone forward yet.

Brad Nuxoll and Wendy have been working on setting up a demonstration for an early alert system.

Evidence-Based Decision Making

Michael Taylor reported on progress researching swipe card systems discussed at the February meeting. Six schools responded to a survey inquiring how many of them use such a system. He will send out an email at the end of the week with the results of the survey and research. He will also set up a demonstration for the next meeting.

Completion Campaign

Claire Korschinowski reported that the taskforce will review data to determine possible causes for the gap between those who complete the capstone project (60-70%) and those who go on to graduate.

Multi-Cultural Support Services

Ted Broussard reported progress in assessing multicultural support services; they met and use data provided by Teresa Greene as a springboard for assignments. They are also looking at what other colleges are doing. Ted will share findings at the next meeting and the results in May.

Policy Issues

Dr. Loveday recommends the committee perform an overall review policy, and particularly in regards to making COLL 101 a required course, the timing of Dev-Ed courses (i.e. frontload, throughout term), whether to continue to offer Dev-Ed courses online, the timing of student orientation (pre-registration rather than just prior to the start of classes), and auto-awarding. Claire will bring together a group of people from the affected areas (i.e. Instruction, Advising, Registrar, Financial Aid) to discuss and identify a list of possibilities.

Announcements

- ATD coaches site visit with Brenda Beckman and Dr. Mark Figueroa – May 1-2
- Annual Reflection due – May 8
- 2014 Educational Attainment for All Diversity Conference, Pacific Northwest University, Yakima, WA – April 16

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

1 A demonstration with CampusLabs occurred on April 2, 2014.