

Achieving the Dream

Core Team Meeting

July 22, 2014

Minutes

Members Present:

Dr. Jeremy McMillen

Dr. Regina Organ

Dr. Jeanie Hardin

Mr. Leon Deutsch

Dr. Debbie Smarr

Ms. Shelle Cassell

Dr. Chase Machen

Ms. Carla Fanning

Ms. Barbara Malone

1. Discussion of Core Team Members and Data Team Members-Membership of the Core Team, College Success Council, and Goal Teams

- a. Dr. Organ asked that the Core Team members review the AtD Core Team Members (extended group). Please review, make suggestions, and approve. Dr. Organ will contact the new members.
- b. Move Mr. Mark Taylor (Director of Student Success) to Core team

Dr. Chase Machen made motion to add Mr. Mark Taylor and Mr. Leon Deutsch seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Update Common Reader and Kick Off Planning – October 3, 2014 - Smarr, Deutsch, Machen, Cassell

- a. Leon reported on the Common Read. He researched Phillips Community College who completed this endeavor in 2007. Books are available from only one vendor. For 400 copies, cost would be approximately \$6400 (not included shipping). Leon provided a handout on *Bridges Out of Poverty* with a suggested outline of activities and instructions.
- b. Leon also reported that Donna Byrum gave some insight on the book and how it was used within the Adult Education division.
- c. Leon suggested that we distribute books August 22nd (Welcome Back Day) and then have discussion sessions established approximately every 6 weeks). Dr. Smarr suggested that the first discussions be on October 3rd and the continue the day with the Equity Game (for the Equity game, the College needs to be randomly organized into groups)

- d. For the discussion groups, the discussion leaders will be comprised from the AtD Core Team Members (ex. minus the student workers)
- e. Shelle provided a handout for the AtD Calendar (draft) that was discussed/worked on at the AtD Conference in June.
- f. An idea for the August 22nd Welcome Back Day: Open up the fall semester with AtD Common Read in addition to having a GC panel and/or student panel to share their personal story of a poverty stricken upbringing and the challenges they faced in secondary and post secondary institutions.
- g. Group is thinking about what College wide activities could be created specifically around the *Bridges out of Poverty* common read (art showcase, theatre productions, etc).
- h. Next steps: Need to communicate to the extended AtD Core team to let them know of their membership. Either in the same letter or a follow up letter, send out a GC People email for volunteers to facilitate book group discussions. Dr.McMillen approved Leon to submit a PO to purchase the texts.

3. Data Conference (September)

- a. Dates are September 24th and 25th, 2014 (macro and micro data will be provided in addition to our AtD Coaches attending)
 - i. Dr.Smarr and Daniel will be emailing data. Data will be provided to group leaders (to be determined) by September 3rd. These group leaders will need to meet and discuss with the groups/data to be prepared for the 24th and 25th meetings (morning meetings with AtD Core Team and afternoon for departments/faculty)
- b. Dr. Smarr discussed type of data to be available by those meetings. Dr.Smarr is concerned about a large conference but instead have smaller groups (comparable to the common read groups). Dr. Machen suggested that a macro overview from either Dr. McMillen or Dr. Hardin and then have break out sessions to review/discuss smaller pieces of information (ex. Psychology, English (program level) or Chairs (Division level?))
 - i. If we do it at the program/discipline level (once the data is provided), then we need to request that the group conclude meeting with at least one high end, productive practice to implement in that department.
 - ii. What specific data do we want to have available? Grade data at the course and program level? Dr.Smarr discussed that 'mode of delivery' (ex. FtF, distance learning, hybrid) for the data is important.
 - iii. Dr.Smarr and Daniel will work on macro and micro level organization data and how to group (ex. Course Completion, Time to Degree)

4. Dates for Linda and Rene to visit GC

- a. The AtD group feels that that asking Linda to attend the AtD Kick Off is beneficial to the College (ex. Participate in the Opening sessions of the 10/3/14, facilitate in a break out session and Q&A Session). Dr. Organ will contact Linda to finalize her visit plans for the fall and spring semester.

- b. Dr. Organ will confirm dates for Rene (November 4-5, 2014)

5. Top Risk Courses Data Review

- a. Dr. Smarr provided data for Top Risk Courses for Academic Studies for fall 2013 and spring 2014, which included an executive summary. She will email the workforce data to the group (this data should be the foundation for the data workshops dates).
- b. Dr. Smarr's recommendation is for her office to dig deeper into the data presented today (look at course section data)

6. Strategic Plan Review (Move to three goals: Access, Success and Engagement)

- a. Dr. Smarr suggested that the goals be revised to these three. Shelle Cassell will send out an email asking for recommendations/opinions from Excellence Team members on moving the group into the other teams.
- b. It is the recommendation of the AtD Core Team to investigate the possibility of the Excellence team being absorbed into the other teams and those Excellence Team members as Excellence Advocates

7. Discussion of Equity and Equality and Student Success at Grayson College

- a. The Common Read will touch on this during the October 3rd meeting
- b. Diversity training for the upcoming year is a strong consideration

8. Next Steps

- a. Dates for upcoming meetings:
 - i. August 5th (8:30 – 10:00 am)
 - ii. August 14th (8:30 – 10:00 am)