

Achieving the Dream

Core Team Meeting

August 5, 2014

Minutes

Members Present:

Barbara Malone
Regina Organ
Mark Taylor
Daniel Nickeson
Gary Paikowski
Carla Fanning
Giles Brown
Leon Deutsch
Chase Machen
Keri Harvey

1. Update on Common Read

Leon provided an update on the Common Read. He has sent the 'welcome' message to Dr. McMillen to review/edit to send to the college community. He mailed a check to Aha Press to purchase a college set of "Bridges over Poverty" (Spanish translation unavailable). He expects the texts to be delivered to the campus next week. To have Ms. Ruby Payne for a full day is \$12,000 (\$8000 for a half day).

Tentative schedule for Common Read (please see handout)

Aug 22 – provide texts and mini syllabus

Oct 3: Groups formed and Discussion 1

Three/Four additional dates to meet and discuss the text

Guiding questions will be provided to groups. Group leaders will collect responses from groups and submit electronically

What are some ideas for the culminating events for the Common Read?

- Dr. Smarr suggested that the College provide data revolved around GC student body that highlights the discussions from the text. Put the GC student body back into the focus from the Common Read.
- Fundraising for students who need financial help (gas money, money for car repairs, etc)
- Maybe expand the Care Center

Leon asked the group to review the common read planning/schedule. Dr.Smarr suggested that the group leaders have some training prior to the groups meetings. Leon said he would plan the training for the 2nd or 3rd week of September. Dr. Smarr suggested that there should be some morning time of the Data Summit for Rene and Linda to help provided training for the group leaders.

2. Proposed Agenda for AtD Kick Off on October 3rd

Leon provided a draft of AtD Kick-Off tentative schedule (please see handout).

Please provide Leon with any recommendations/suggestions.

- How are we going to get our students for the student panel? First priority is to see if we can find scholarship money. Part of the application process would be for the student to answer whether or not he/she is willing to share his/her story with the college community. Dr. Machen suggested that we get the essay/scholarship out to the Division Chairs to share with faculty, who would discuss during the first and second weeks of classes (morning classes). The turn around for the essays would be approximately 2 weeks. Dr.Smarr suggested that we have the scholarship available on the website and the front offices in student services. Barbara Malone suggested that we make the ‘interdependence’ issues a college wide initiative.

3. “What Excellent Community Colleges Do”

Dr. Smarr picked up this book at the AtD Conference. She shared with Dr.McMillen that she felt that the Core Team should have and read a copy.

Action Item: Read Chapter 1 by next meeting (August 14th)

4. Data Summit Update

September 24-25, 2014

Please see tentative handout provided by Dr. Smarr

Dr.Organ provided “Student Success Through a Policy Lens” and “Courageous Conversation about Equity at Grayson College.”

Dr.Smarr suggested that she would share the course/dept success rate with the Division Chairs and have a discussion on how this illustrates the students’ behaviors and not targeting failures of instructors (look at the students and their needs). What differences exist in the student populations in various classes (morning versus afternoon, fall vs spring)?

Dr.Smarr relayed that Dr.McMillen suggested that GC involve students in the data summit. Dr.Smarr would like recommendations from the Core Team on where to include

the students. She is also looking at suggestions on who to use for group leaders and discussion leaders.

Recommendations/Action Items:

Please provide Dr.Smarr with recommendations on where to include students during Data Summit and who to utilize for group/discussion leaders.

5. Workforce Educational Top Risk Course Data

Dr. Smarr provided updated data on Academic and Workforce divisions.

6. Success Effort Reading List

Dr. Smarr reported that on the Grayson Planning website, the very first tab is Success Efforts, where an updated current reading list will be located. Please send Dr.Smarr any interesting readings and she will load.

7. Next Steps

August 14, 2014 is the next AtD meeting at 8:30 am.

- Please get any agenda items to Dr.Organ or Dava
- Leon will bring a draft of the scholarship application. Leon will check with Janis Thompson and Donna King about the scholarship guidelines.
- Dr.Smarr will send Data Summitt agenda draft to Linda and Rene.