

University Retention Committee Meeting Agenda

January 16, 2008

Taggart Student Center Room 336

1:30 p.m.

Attending: Aaron Andersen, Cynthia Arocha, Michelle Bogdan, Dave Bush, Noelle Call, Krystin Deschamps, Tiffany Evans, Christie Fox, Shannon Jolley, Whitney Milligan, Carol Rosenthal, Robert Schmidt, Gary Straquadine, Susan Williams

1. Introduction of Prevention Specialist - Ryan Barfus -

We welcome Ryan to the staff of the Health and Wellness Center. Ryan's previous work is in health education specially drug and alcohol abuse. Ryan's first project is reviewing the judicial mandate to educate students with drug and alcohol violations. He announced that there will be a variety of events during Healthy Relationship Week, February 11-14. Ryan can be contacted at 797-1540.

2. 2007 Retention Report - Aaron Andersen

Aaron presented an overview of the 2007 Retention Report. Each fall this report is presented to the Executive Committee and Faculty Senate. Note that the report uses data from the cohorts for the past 3 years. We have received the fall 2006 cohort data and are currently working on updating the numbers.

3. Introduction of USU Retention Plan - Noelle Call

The Retention & FYE Office would like to consolidate retention efforts into a retention plan that features the areas of retention: Programs, Partnerships, Planning, and Progress. The program section will feature a short description of programs that part of the objective is retention (i.e. Leave of Absence) The partnership section will be a description of how campus departments and units work together on efforts. The planning section is a description of data collection, analysis and research used to create initiatives. The Progress section is a summary of current and future initiatives. The concept is that this document will be on the web and will be updated yearly. Please send information that you want in the plan as soon as possible. (Attached is a template for the plan)

4. Introduction of Retention Newsletter - first edition - Noelle Call

The Retention and FYE Office would like to publish a newsletter three times a year. The audience for this information would be faculty and staff across campus. The first edition will be distributed across campus (3000 copies), sent electronically and posted on the web. This is your chance to highlight your department's retention efforts. Please submit articles by February 6. Attached is a template of the newsletter.

5. 2008 Unit retention goals - Submit by February 6 - We would like to update the retention goals on the University Committee Website. These could be the same information that you are submitting for the newsletter and retention plan.

6. Efforts to include Regional campuses -

Bill Strong from the Regional Campus office asked that we remember to include the regional campus populations in our retention initiatives. He will be assessing the regional campus to discover their needs and then contact the committee for ideas and resources.

7. Student Services Student Employee Recognition, Training effort

Dave Bush reported on a Student Employee Recognition Event that was held on Friday, January 11. Seventy student employees came to lunch, heard Scott Watterson, CEO from Icon give a presentation, and participated in a mini training on customer service using the Starbucks model. In addition three students were recognized for outstanding service. They were Cassandra Carter - Admissions Office, Jaime Tongish - Student Employment and Craig Workmen - Campus Recreation. These students received a gift certificate to Blackstone Restaurant and a recognition certificate. Noelle and Dave are gathering student feedback on the event. It was noted that the student workers in Housing should have been invited. Student employment also does a recognition event. There was some discussion regarding centralizing student employee training to support the efforts of departments on campus.

8. Literature Committee Selection update

Christie Fox reported that the Literature Committee meets on Friday, January 18th to make the final selection for 2008. The two finalists are A Long Way Gone by Ishmael Beah and Crashing Through by Robert Kurson. (Today's note, A Long Way Gone was selected!)

7. Other items - Dave Bush reported that the Counseling Center, the ARC, and the DRC are piloting a support group this semester for students with disabilities.

8. Meeting dates: Feb. 13, Mar. 19, Apr. 9, May 14, June 11
Time 1:30 Place: TSC 336