

## **FYE Committee Meeting October 18, 2006 - Minutes**

**Attending:** Cynthia Arocha, Rachel Brighton, Noelle Call ( chair), Krystin Deschamps, Tiffany Evans, Fawn Groves, Susan Haddock, Peg Hennon, Shannon Jolley, Joyce Kinkead, Artemis Preeshl, Nate Sanders, Marcy Skinner, Gary Straquadine, Joe Vande Merwe

Excused: Aaron Anderson, Gary Chambers, Amy Crosbie, Christie Fox, Steve Hanks, Wendy Holiday, Norm Jones, John Mortensen, Jenn Putnam, Robert Schmidt

1. All present introduced themselves to the rest of the committee.

2. **New Retention/FYE url-** <http://webdev.usu.edu/rfye/index.cfm>

**3. Is it time for a change? Proposal to change name and broaden focus of committee-**

Current retention trends include creating a campus wide retention committee. Reviewing the make-up of these committees, it was noted that the members are the same entities that are currently represented on the FYE committee. It was proposed that instead of creating a new committee for retention purposes, the name of the FYE committee be changed to broaden the focus and bring in other campus departments. The focus of the committee would cover not only first year students, but sophomores, juniors, and others up through graduation. New members would be brought in to the committee to broaden it's views and interests. The committee brainstormed ideas for a new name for the committee. Suggested were:

- Retention and Persistence Committee

- Student Success Committee

- A concern was how success was going to be defined. They didn't want the main focus to be on only the word "success"-

- A concern was taking First Year out of the name and turning focus away from that

- Noelle suggested that Retention is the overall outcome, not what we do.

- Gary said that the name should incorporate the FYE mission statement. How do we state getting a student to degree completion?

**4. A look at the current mission statement and goals-** With the change in the committee and its focus, a new mission statement needs to be written. A subcommittee was formed to review and redirect the mission statement and goals. Drafts will be sent to committee members throughout the month. Members are:

Krystin Deschamps

Artemis Preeshl

Cynthia Arocha

Peg Hennon

Noelle Call

Aaron Andersen

**5. Proposal for a campus wide retention plan &**

**6. Thoughts on a campus wide retention conference-** Noelle suggested the idea of a

campus wide retention conference and everyone agreed that it was a good idea. A

subcommittee was formed for this event. The purpose of the conference would be to share

current campus retention data, successes and progress in the past five years, review best

practices and move toward a campus wide retention plan. An outside speaker from Noel-Levitz

or ACT would be the keynote and facilitator. An initiative will be presented to Student Services to fund this event.

Committee members are:

Joe Vande Merwe  
Krystin Deschamps  
Shannon Jolley  
Gary Straquadine  
Joyce Kinkead

#### **7. Other Items-**

Faculty Award- There is a new award that is going to be given to one tenure track faculty member in each college who teaches a class that has first year students in it. Students were asked to email nominations for the award. 121 nominations were received. The Provosts office sent out a letter to each of the nominees congratulating them and asking them to submit a one page teaching philosophy statement. In November, the awards will be presented to the faculty member in one of their first year sections. A summary of the teaching philosophies will be on the Retention/FYE site as "Best Practices from Faculty who Teach First-Year Students."

Literature Committee- The committee has narrowed the possible books to about 30. This year, a librarian from the Logan Library is on the committee. This individual brings a good perspective of what the community is reading and enjoying. After Thanksgiving the options will be narrowed to 4-6. The committee will announce the selections by the end of January.

#### **8. Next Meeting – 1:30 November 15 TSC 336**

2006-2007 Meeting Dates

December 20  
January 17  
February 21  
March 21  
April 18  
May 16