Division of Student Success Steering Committee

July 29, 2014 @ 4:00PM (VPSS Conf Rm)

MINUTES

Attendees:

Chris Kearns, Cheryl Blank, Marci Torres, Michelle Sorenson, Erin McCormick, Brandi Payne, Eric Wold, Matt Caires, Ronda Russell, Tammie Brown, Jordan Garceaux, Jerry Weston, Jen Joyce

Announcements and Updates

* Mental Health & Recovery – statewide effort but MSU is on the forefront
  + Research angle – nearly not enough time and attention about identifying causes
  + STEM Cell Research – Shows changes in brains of mice
* ASMSU DOO Search – campus interviews are completed and we have a successful candidate: Marianne Brough (Please introduce yourselves if you haven’t already met her.)
* ResLife Update
  + Overflow housing is now being used, everyone has a bed.
  + Contact Tammie if you have any students who are panicking beyond consoling.
  + They have started moving sod for the new residence hall.
  + The main dining hall in Miller will be open in time for Fall.
* Admissions
  + Fall Orientation will be very big
  + The Division will want to work closely with Tracy on communication
  + Ronda is looking for volunteers for greeters on Wednesday
  + Orientation Update
    - ASMSU is providing live music during Catapalooza and to pump up the students for Legend.
    - Legend is on Friday and they are looking for volunteers as well.
* Phone System
  + Update – Eric Wold
    - ITC has made a decision that they will keep the new system and work to correct the issues as they arise. Eric will keep us updated as those bugs/fixes are reported.
  + Interim Communication Strategies
    - Unified Communication as we work through this process should be to explain upfront that we are upgrading the phone system and are having a few difficulties

Business Items

* DSS Retreat
  + What kind of a 'get to know ourselves' does the group think would be beneficial?
    - Depends on who is attending the retreat.
    - Maybe start with Steering group.
    - Have a facilitator that is aware of group goal
      * Daniel Clark – strategic planning/community building ($800)
      * Betsy Webb – community building (HR Service)
    - Strength Quest – Tammie will send more details.
  + Think about the list of things Student Success will be held accountable.

Miscellaneous

* Emergency Contact: Name, cellphone number, email address and primary emergency contact. At registration and at add/drop students will be prompted to update the information with a bypass if the information is up to date. The intent is to have current information in case of an emergency situation.
* Research agenda for the Division - we research student success - what is it? We are solving problems that have a national significance, if we are going to make research relevant to a skeptical audience that has national interest. Pay attention to the work we are doing in ways that will be made clear in the models we are developing. Partner with faculty, working with students, publish papers. Get in the habit of putting an academic hat on as we go, step out into our problems and see what we have done. More to come...

Assignments

* Go through the Strategic Plan Tier 2 Progress Report Story Update and identify 2-3 stories you think should be published.
  + Identify areas that we are making a difference or have stories. (If they are already out there and we can point them to the resource.) If you have one that you think should be included, please identify that but no more than one in each category.
  + What are we doing that fall under the categories?
  + The Division should be sending their future stories to the Office of Planning and Analysis.
* Identify 5-6 Key Success Measures – use the diagram of the frame work discussed in the last meeting.
  + We each do this differently and we need to bring what we do together in a frame work.
  + The ability to have a model that shows what we do collectively and how that fits into the University as a whole is important.