DOSA Strategic Planning Committee – Retention and Graduation
10/17/18
Baker University Center 239

Attendance: Brittany Barten (Campus Rec), Kent Scott (Culinary), Jen Maskiell (Housing and Residence Life), Tim Epley (Event Services), Lijing Yang (HESA faculty), Kathy Fahl (DOS), Jenny Hall-Jones (DOS), Tammy Andrews (DOS), Julie Chiki (ENT Student Success Advisor), Jennifer Klein (UC), Jodi Pavol (CLDC) and Justine Reichley (Housing & Residence Life)

Absent: Elizabeth Stermer (DOS), Loralyne Taylor (IT), and Josh Gruenke (CIC)

Discussion of Breakthrough Objectives & Key Results

• The group went over the breakthrough objectives and key results

Breakthrough Objective: The OHIO Division of Student Affairs will work to engage all students in meaningful programs, services and activities to increase retention and graduation rates.

Key Results A: DOSA will identify and enhance programs and services that help students build community and feel connected.

Year One: Collect comprehensive list of DOSA programs and services that we believe that contribute to belonging. Incorporate questions relating to connectivity into ongoing student surveys to create a baseline and identify retention impact.

• The Program Audit and Best Practices subcommittees will meet together on Monday, October 22nd to review and develop the survey together to incorporate the “Sense of Belonging” definition.

Key Result B: Engagement between DOSA staff and at-risk students will increase.

Year One: Explore DOSA involvement in the My OHIO Success Network and connect that program with our student employees.

• Supervisors who employee student workers can be connected to their students employees through the MyOhio Student Success Network. – The group would like to pursue this and Jodi Pavol volunteered to research/obtain information for this project.

Key Result C: DOSA will expand the OHIO Basic Needs Initiative

Year One: Research emergency basic needs options (food, shelter, emergency financial aid, etc.). Identify partners. Track how student drop-out rates relate to basic needs.

• Kathy Fahl is currently working on this initiative.

Discussion of Agenda Items

• Jenny discussed data sharing and the conversation that she had with the Data Request Advisory Committee.
Questions were raised about the data that is in the MyOhio Success Network. For example: who has access to the data, who sees the data, and how much/what data is appropriate to share.

It was mentioned that OU students have the ability and may have to log into 70 different systems.

Regional campuses are using the MyOhio Success Network really well.

Students are not required to log into the MyOhio Student Success Network.

Could there be an APP for the MyOhio Student Success Network.

Jenny attended the University Student Success Planning meeting and at that meeting they are defining the definition of “Student Success”. This committee has been charged with giving the President their retention recommendations by the end of fall semester. Elizabeth Sayrs is responsible for this charge.

Jenny will share the minutes from this meeting with their group.

A recommendation was made to have nudging happen before the students arrive on campus.

There was a discussion regarding reaching out to students with balances after 10/1/18.

This will include 6,000 students who are 150 days late.

The Bursar’s office is concern about how the messaging is delivered.

Some questions to ask the student:

- Is your parents/or person an authorized user on their Bursar account?
- Have you filled out other financial scholarships beside the FAFSA?
- The FAFSA is not the only financial form you should be filling out.
- Do you need a payment plan? If so, here is the how you can obtain the payment plan.
- If a student is sent to collections they cannot obtain their transcript which may stall their process of transferring to another institution.

Kathy recommended that we should craft a script message.

The definition of “belonging” was agreed upon and that definition is below:

Feeling welcomed, safe, connected, and integrated into a community, cared for and supported by its members, and valued for personal identities and attributes.

A suggestion was made to make the statement below our mission statement:

OHIO fosters programming and cultivates relationships that students can connect to in a way that allows them to feel integrated, valued, and safe to develop their own unique identities.

The Best Practices in Student Affairs Retention/Graduation/Belonging summary is below:

- Student Affairs/Outside the classroom is more critical in the first two years (belonging)
  - Branded Identities, class brands
  - For first gen/connecting with parents
- Peer to Peer interactions/mentoring
- Encouraging jobs/work study/FAFSA information (financial literacy)
- Alumni/sophomore liaison relationships for internships
- Evaluating co-curricular activities beyond participation
- Academic/Student affairs integration
• Next steps?
  o Our group may have to set a retention rate goal.
  o In 3 weeks committee members need to provide an update to the Strategic Leadership Team.
  o The Program Audit will be a collaborative effort.
  o Is the Best Practices Work done?
  o In the upcoming weeks Residence Life will be sending out a survey mid-semester to gather data.

Next Meeting: Friday, November 2 at 10 am in Baker 230.