Student Success Committee Meeting
3:15 p.m. October 4, 2016
Koch Hall Conference Room

Present:  Austin Agho, Jane Dane’, Scott Harrison, Terri Mathews, Lisa Mayes, Ellen Neufeldt, Brian Payne, Humberto Portellez, Joe Ritchie, Don Stansberry, Rusty Waterfield, Johnny Young.

Retention
Jane reported that each year a variety of factors of the freshman class are reviewed to identify those areas the students show a need for assistance with retention. Jane explained that an overall risk score is computed for every freshman in our fall class. She reviewed the top five risk areas that were identified in this year’s freshman class:

- **High School GPA**  
  Freshmen with a GPA lower than a 3.07 are at risk for academic preparation.

- **Financial Aid Gap**  
  Students whose unmet financial need is more than $10,000 are at risk.

- **Number of Days as an Applicant**  
  The longer a student is an applicant, the more likely that student is to be successful, to be committed to ODU, and engaged in ODU.

- **In-state Tuition Eligibility Flag**  
  Freshman who are not eligible for in-state tuition are at risk of dropping out due to financial difficulties.

- **Writing Sample Placement Test**  
  Students who either don’t take the writing sample placement test or take the test and those with lower scores are at risk of dropping out.

Efforts to assist these students in succeeding at ODU include partnering across campus with committees, groups, and others that address academic support or student engagement, aspiration, and financial need. Each success coach is currently working with 130 students with whom they meet bi-weekly.

Students at risk are sorted into 4 groups to help with outreach and Matt Newton, CRM Manager, can assist in sending these communications. Discussion followed.

Out-of-State and First Generation Students
Don reported that this year, all out-of-state students who live on and off campus are being invited to the monthly HRL programs, which kicked off with an out-of-state student social at the Ted in September; 53 of 270 out-of-state students attended, where they met with other out-of-state students, had the opportunity to talk about where they were from, and received a give-away for attending. International students were also invited to this social. In October, out-of-state students received a special invitation to the HRL PAW trip to Virginia Air and Space Museum. These students are being encouraged to apply for RA’s and
they will receive a special invitation to Haunted Halls. In addition, an out-of-state student basketball game is in January/February. Discussion followed.

First generation student activities started with a networking luncheon, targeting one of our Freshman Summer Institute programs. A lunch is planned with first-generation students and then later with upper classmates. 23% of our freshman class is first-generation; many do not fully understand they are first-generation until it is explained to them. Discussion followed.

**Actions**
- Don Stansberry and Joe Ritchie will lead subcommittee to focus on retention/success initiatives for first generation and out-of-state students.
- Terri proposed the idea to have an opportunity for HIP leaders to learn about first generation/out-of-state and other special population needs.
- Brian would like to create a faculty mentor program for first generation students.

**EAB Collaborative**
Brian reported that early alerts were sent out to faculty last week through SSC campus. Feedback from faculty is very good. Connor Lawless from EAB will be on campus on October 24 to demonstrate SSC campus; invitations will be sent to all committee members.

Brian distributed student success challenge “coins” while explaining a success challenge recently instituted to encourage discussion among CHIPS and Advising and Transfer Programs staff about student success. Every staff member has received a coin. The staff member who uses the coin most efficiently (i.e., successfully assists a student), wins an award. The staff members who do not have their coin on them during staff meetings must relate what they have recently done to contribute to student success.

**Study Abroad Update**
Don reported that an estimated 249 ODU students will participate in our study abroad programs this year. He noted that the Global Health, faculty-led study abroad programs during 2016 spring break and summer were canceled due to the Zika virus outbreak, impacting 30 students. When Professor Ted Remley left ODU in 2014, he took four of his six International Counseling Institute study abroad programs with him to his new university. His study abroad program enrollments accounted for the vast majority of the participants in our study abroad programs during 2012-13, and 2013-14. Recruiting efforts are focusing on non-ODU students. Overall, our study abroad enrollments have remained consistent over the past few years. The majority of our study abroad students participate in faculty-led and other types of short-term study abroad programs, in comparison to semester programs, which is in alignment with national study abroad statistics. Most ODU undergraduates who study abroad do so during their third or fourth years at ODU. To encourage freshmen and sophomore participation, First-Year Greece and
Spanish Language and Cuban Culture programs were developed that included general education courses that fulfilled degree requirements for ODU students. ODU study abroad program offerings compare well with our peer institutions and institutions across the country. We offer study abroad programs in most fields of study and at varying durations. We offer 20-30 faculty-led programs in a wide assortment of disciplines and curricular areas annually. Additionally, we offer 16 bilateral student exchanges and more than 950 affiliate study abroad programs in more than 50 countries.

Several factors may impact ODU students’ ability to participate in study abroad programs, including:

- The number of students who work, and/or have family, military or other responsibilities while in school
- Academic curriculum and/or course sequencing, requirements, and/or offerings
- Number of ODU students who are first-time college students
- Number of ODU students who are non-traditional students or transfer students and do not think study abroad applies to them or cannot participate due to other reasons
- Limited study abroad scholarship funding
- Cost to participate in study abroad programs
- Student financial resources vs. opportunity costs of participating in study abroad programs
- Students’ self-perception that studying abroad is not possible for them

For those students unable to participate in study abroad programs, study away programs are offered, which occur domestically within the United States.

**Brother 2 Brother Mentoring Program**

Johnny reported that this team, a student support group for African American and Latino young men, is all set. Training is on October 27, orientation on October 28.

**Review/Update of Committees**

- **FYE** committee name will change to First Generation. This committee will meet and brainstorm regarding first-generation students, as well as out-of-state students. Members include Don Stansberry (chair), Joe Ritchie, Marissa Jimenez.
- **Sophomore Success** committee will remain, with Jonny as chair.
- **Faculty Advisory Group** will remain, with Brian as chair.
- **Data** committee will remain, with Jane as chair.
- **Degree Completion** group, with Humberto as chair, will remain.
- **HIP** committee, with Lisa Mayes as chair and Emily Eddins as member, will remain.
- **Advising** group will remain, with Joe Ritchie reporting, in Sandy’s absence.
- **Technology Tools** is no longer relevant and will be deleted.
- **Entry Process** group will remain. Jane and Rusty will suggest a new name and purpose, and will forward to Lucia.
- **Financial Literacy** group will remain, with Todd Johnson as chair.
- **Retention** group will remain.
- **Portal/Communication** committee, with Rusty as chair, will remain. Rusty reported the following:
  - For the period 2 weeks before classes through the first 3 weeks of classes, there were 784,000 portal logins.
  - In August there were 95,000 clicks on My Status Alerts (holds, financial balance, financial aid action)
  - In September there were 31,000 clicks on My Status Alerts (holds, financial balance, financial aid action)
  - During the first 3 weeks of classes, 570 students entered a preferred name
  - For the first 2 weeks prior to classes and the first week of class, the average weekly use of the checklists was 12,000 and then dropped to 4,200 per week during the first 2 weeks of classes.