**Committee on Retention Efforts (CORE)**

**Meeting Minutes**

**February 13, 2019**

1. **Call to Order**

The Committee on Retention Efforts (CORE) was called to order on February 13, 2019, at

3:00 p.m. in the Student Success Center Classroom 1115 in Ninth Street Hall.

**Members present:** Gurkan Akalin, Cindy Boyer, Mona Davenport, Joe Eichman (recording secretary), Shelley James, Alexis Jones, Katie Lewandowski, Josh Norman, Catherine Polydore, Karla Sanders, chair, Ed Treadwell, and Tanya Willard

**Members absent:** Austin Cheney, Julie Dietz, Vicki Phillips, Jody Stone, and Jie Zou.

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1. **Approval of CORE Minutes- January 23, 2019**

Josh Norman motioned to approve the minutes for the January 23 meeting, and Gurkan Akalin seconded. The motion was approved.

1. **FA18 to SP19 Retention**

Karla Sanders presented the FA18 to SP19 Retention numbers. A few highlights: many of the programs that have struggled with retention posted higher numbers, and Gateway students were retained at higher levels as well. Advisors working with Gateway students is proving to be helpful. A concerning surprise was the 11% drop in retention of Honors students. Karla Sanders will look at their GPA’s, but we may never know why these students left. Mona Davenport reported that among the standard admit student groups she works with, all but one group did poorly with grades, but she is not sure why. She also said that the Chicago Public Schools factor currently includes both traditional and charter schools, but these two groups should be separated. CPS students will likely do better than those students from charters.

1. **FA to SP Cohorts**

The data show that the risk factors as understood by the university are all either above or within a few percentage points of overall retention rates, but there are many surprising rises and drops within the individual factors. Financial variables look much improved, due to work by Financial Aid. 55% of freshmen took University Foundations, which will hopefully increase retention. Josh Norman noted that the data show that something strange is going on, but we do not know why.

1. **High DFW List FA18**

The High DFW is a list of certain 1000- and 2000-level courses that consistently have over 30% of students with either a D, F, or W, based on national criteria. This data is useful to highlight where Supplemental Instruction (SI) may be helpful. Catherine Polydore asked if EIU has considered a summer math seminar, but Karla Sanders said we did try it, but students just weren’t interested in it. The two remedial math courses – MAT 1270 and 1271 are consistently on the DFW List. Cindy Boyer said that Academic Success Center has been piloting SI in MAT 1271 and FLS 1102. Currently only 2 or 3 students are attending the SI sessions, but she is hopeful that number will increase if these students report doing well on the first exam. Ed Treadwell reported that CHM 1310 on this list because students just cannot handle the algebra. He noted that this generation is over-confident. A discussion over several options followed. The biggest challenge seems to be getting students to attend either tutoring, review sessions, or SI. Karla Sanders suggested sending a list of the courses with SI to advisors, to increase awareness.

1. **SP Newsletter**

Karla Sanders will work on the spring newsletter over Spring Break. The deadline to submit articles is March 6. Josh Norman said that the technology portion to notify advisors and faculty about SP or SU starting students is in place, and awaiting content. Catherine Polydore will work with Tanya Willard to deliver the content.

1. **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 4:04.

*~Minutes submitted Joe Eichman, Recording Secretary*