**Committee on Retention Efforts (CORE)**

**Meeting Minutes**

**October 10, 2018**

1. **Call to Order**

The Committee on Retention Efforts (CORE) was called to order on October 10, 2018 at

3:05 p.m. in the Student Success Center Classroom 1115 in Ninth Street Hall.

**Members present:** Gurkan Akalin, Cindy Boyer, Austin Cheney, Julie Dietz, Joe Eichman (recording secretary), Alexis Jones, Karla Sanders, chair, Ed Treadwell, and Jie Zou.

**Members absent:** Mona Davenport, Shelley James, Katie Lewandowski, Josh Norman, Vicki Phillips, Jody Stone, and Tanya Willard.

1. **Approval of CORE Minutes-September 26, 2018**

Julie Dietz motioned to approve the minutes with Cindy Boyer offering a second. The minutes were approved.

1. **Drill Down of Financial Indicators**

In the last meeting, Gurkan Akalin asked for a drill down of the >$7000 need gap, so Karla Sanders broke it down for the Committee. Students with a need gap between $7000-8000 had the lowest retention rate. She also added other retention risk factors to the need gap to see how other factors affect a student’s retention. A lower academic index (low HS GPA and ACT score) coupled with an unmet need over $7000 really negatively affected a student’s retention rate. The data shows that it’s not just the money, but an accumulation of risk factors that really determine a student’s retention rate.

The Committee discussed strategies to help retain these students. Going to 12 credit hours may work. Still Full Time, but less overwhelming, especially if student takes 2 summer courses.

1. **Committee Priorities**
   1. First Generation Initiatives

Karla Sanders suggested a campus-wide effort to bring more attention to First Gen students. 40% of our FR are First Gen. Will ask faculty and staff to advertise if they are a first generation college grad, and to share their stories with students. Ed Treadwell suggested faculty add this information to their webpage. Julie Dietz suggested electronic photo frames for 1st Gen faculty and staff. Maggie Burkhead will research other ideas and get back to Karla Sanders. November 8 is National First Generation College Student Recognition Day.

Karla Sanders proposed a First Generation Subcommittee. Julie Dietz, Cindy Boyer, Karla Sanders, Mona Davenport, and Maggie Burkhead will be members.

* 1. Newsletter

Karla Sanders will work on this Friday, Oct. 19. Cindy Boyer will provide screen shots of Early Alert system changes. Julie Dietz and Shelley James will provide quotes.

* 1. Early Alert System

There was a discussion about Faculty participation in Early Alert. Cindy Boyer said that without faculty entering early alerts, the system does not work. There are whole areas ready to act once early alerts are entered. Currently less than 50% of faculty submit early alerts. This could be because there are no D-F-W’s in the class, or no grades yet, or because the faculty member just did not submit. Austin Cheney said he will bring this up at the Council of Chairs. Cindy Boyer talked about how outreach happens after an early alert is entered.

1. **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

*~Minutes submitted Joe Eichman, Recording Secretary*