

WVNCC

Retention Committee Meeting Agenda

February 6, 2020

2:00 p.m.

Present: MJ McIntosh, K. Aulick, J. Britt, T. Edwards, T. Becker, K. Patterson, C. Hippensteel, S. Leghlid, C. Farnsworth

Excused: P. Roper, P. Sharma, R. Spurlock, J. Loveless

I. Old/Ongoing Business

Fall data for five retention projects selected for 19-20 assessment plan – T. Becker reports data for Registration Ticket Process is being compiled and will be entered in WEAVE

C. Farnsworth wondered if once all depts./individuals have entered data from their respective programs/services in WEAVE report could be generated for purposes of retention reporting on selected initiatives

T. Becker reported on upcoming Career & Transfer Fair featuring employers and 4-year institutions; time of the event has been condensed, from 10-2 to 11-1; she encouraged faculty/staff to promote attendance

S. Leghlid suggested this event offers a good opportunity to speak to the employers in attendance regarding possibilities for partnerships and also to solicit feedback on what employers need and are looking for in hires

T. Becker stated employers who participate do receive a brief survey to share feedback about the event, but that, currently, this survey focuses more on event logistics than determining employers' needs with regard to hiring, candidate skill levels etc.

S. Leghlid suggested this also may be an opportunity to talk with participating employers regarding barriers for students who are working while in school

T. Becker suggested it is possible she could work with L. Kastenbauer to adapt survey

It was also mentioned this may be an opportunity to make employers aware of the possibility of having Northern students for internships

Faculty support of the Career & Transfer fair was again mentioned-extra-credit or participation points were mentioned; J. Britt stated she does try to support this event and others, but sometimes it is hard to find time for everything

T. Becker expressed understanding and wondered if it might be appropriate to focus specifically on 2nd year students

T. Becker also stated that the Career Counselor and Service Center may begin to offer smaller, job-specific events in the future

It was suggested that the Strategic Planning scanning activity currently underway may offer an opportunity to explore how our institution works with working students and also how we're partnering with local employers

MJ McIntosh agreed that speaking directly with local employers to find out exactly what skills they need and what qualities they're looking for would be very valuable; C. Hippensteel did mention that many programs do have advisory boards who help to answer these questions

C. Farnsworth asked if there were other areas we might consider at this time as we look at improving retention and success

C. Hippensteel suggested scheduling might be an area worth considering – what schedules variations meet the needs of students and employers? Nights? Online? Summer? Late-start?

All recognized the complexity of course scheduling.

T. Becker stated that, historically, general education classes were offered in the evening

K. Patterson wondered if there is any desire/need for super early classes?

Friday and Saturday classes were also mentioned.

Retention/success rates for online classes were mentioned and the following statistics were shared for retention/success rates for online classes:

- 28% nationally
- 22% community-technical colleges
- 19-20% WVNCC

K. Patterson mentioned that some schools assess students before they register for online courses.

It was suggested that WVNCC offer more traditional, on-campus, classes in the summer.

It was also suggested WVNCC adopt a course registration cut-off deadline.

It was recommended retention data comparing online and on-campus classes be considered at the next meeting.

- a) Student Ambassador Program – T. Becker stated the Service Center, under her direction, is working on establishing the Student Ambassador Program and plans to make this a work-study position offering a higher than usual hourly wage due to the limited hours the position would offer. Exciting!
- b) Webinar Request – No follow-up
- c) L. Kastenbauer *Working w/Working Students* – see discussion above

II. Action Items:

- a) C. Farnsworth will submit request for comparison of retention/success rates for online vs. on-campus classes for consideration at next meeting

III. Adjournment

March 5 Meeting is cancelled

Committee will meet again on April 2 at 2 pm in 219B