

Student Services Master Planning Committee (SSMPC)

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

10:00 a.m.

SU-138/A138

PRESENT: Mike McCandless, Anne DiCarlo, Bob Casey, Brenda Latham, Cristina Garcia, Shelly Conner, Sylvia Ruano, Lonita Cordova, Shannon Gragg, Traci Veyl, Cameron Cowperthwaite, Andrea Hall-Cuccia, Regina Coletto, Jeanne Bernardi (recorder)

The meeting was called to order by Mike McCandless at 10:05 a.m.

Approval of Meeting Notes

The November meeting notes were approved by consensus.

Student Services Survey

Andrea Hall-Cuccia from the OIE presented results from the Fall 2017 Student Services survey. There were 236 respondents which is a relatively good response for this type of survey. Respondents were generally full-time, daytime students who took at least 50% of their classes on the Merced campus.

The OIE suggestion is continue to administer surveys periodically. Mike noted that while the response rate was good it is still a small percentage of the student population and should be considered as only one data point in the decision making process. Information will be useful to launch awareness campaigns for the low usage centers. Frequency of administering the survey will be discussed with the Student Success Committee to avoid over-surveying the students.

BP/AP 2015

The Board of Trustees has asked for feedback on the minimum number of units the student trustee should be enrolled in during the semester. Currently the minimum is 12 semester units. At the November Board meeting the student trustee advocated for a reduced load.

The following points were discussed:

1. The statewide organization for student governments requires students to maintain a 2.5 GPA and be enrolled in 6 units. Reducing the unit requirement would expand the pool for representation. It would also allow students with reduced units due to learning disabilities to participate.
2. The part-time student experience versus full-time student experience and the knowledge to represent full time students.
3. Potential reasons to accommodate a lower unit minimum due to the time commitment of the student trustee. Per the ASMC Constitution and Bylaws, the student trustee's responsibilities include attending monthly Board of Trustee meetings, serving on shared governance committees, providing support at events, planning and meeting with administration.

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Mike will provide the committee's feedback to President Vitelli.

Guided Pathways Update

Regina provided an update on Guided Pathways (GPS), reviewed the 4 Pillars of GPS, and provided information on the GPS Statement of Merced College and the 14 Elements of the GPS Work Plan. The final draft of the plan will be completed by February 15th, the final reading at Academic Senate on February 22nd, then to the Board of Trustees for approval.

There is an IEPI Workshop scheduled in Fresno on February 27th – 28th and the college can send up to 15 people. Dr. Rob Johnstone will be on campus March 5th and 6th to meet with the Steering Committee and conduct interviews.

It is important to remember our plan can be changed and adjusted as our knowledge base grows. The state imposed timeline must be met in order to get funding to implement GPS.

Governor's Proposed Budget Workshop

Mike attended the workshop last week, he noted the information provided was tentative and may change with the May revise.

1. A new funding formula was discussed – 50% based on FTES, 25% based on community demographics and 25% based on success measures.
2. A proposed change to categorical programs – Create one big categorical block grant versus the current multiple revenue streams.
3. California College Promise – Free tuition to students. Most of our students already receive the BOGG; unlike the BOGG, California College Promise requires the District to become a loan provider. Colleges cannot vet students of who apply for loans but if the loan default rate gets high federal Financial Aid could be comprised. We pulled out of loan program in 1999 and still have two student accounts in default.

Enrollment Update

As of yesterday, FTES for Spring 18 is 3,794, ahead of Spring 17 point-in-time by 50, but down from Spring 16 point-in-time by approximately 55. There will be a drop at census but there should be a bump at the nine week midsession.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Next meeting: February 27th at 10:00 a.m. in the Admin Board Room