

**Student Success Subcommittee
Dr. Irvin Clark's Subgroup
Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2017 4:00PM
Heth Hall Room 207**

Attendees: Dr. Irvin Clark, Steve Helm, Kim Gainer, Joel Hanlon, David Sallee, Margaret Devaney, Neil Sigmon, Bob Blake, and Mary Hagan

Dr. Clark opened the meeting with introductions, and a review of the agenda. First order of business was to inform the committee that Dr. Hemphill's intent was to meet in April to assess the progress of group. He inquired about what we felt we could accomplish before that time, and the group agreed that defining student success, along with identifying barriers were achievable within the perimeters of the timeline, as well as some framing of ideas about strategies to overcome/assist with the process.

Mr. Blake started the discussion with his perceptions of barriers that hindered the success of students here Radford University, such as having to work while attending the university, and not being able to easily access faculty for mentorship.

The committee as a whole then discussed what our definition of student success was, and how could we help them achieve this goal. Ideas such as a degree being achieved by a specific time frame, the ability to gain employment, a possible attendance policy to catch student issues early on, ways to keep the attention of the lowerclassman, as well as assisting with personal and emotional growth were topics during this portion of the meeting.

Joel stressed the importance of finding a way to measure academic and social competencies, as well as the other goals of defining student success, and the committee concurred.

Barriers to student success were also mentioned, and mentorship was again a topic, as well as financial insecurities, lack of inclusion, low confidence, and the inability to acclimate to the demands of higher education.

Dr. Clark asked our opinion on the possibility of participating with the survey that is slated to be sent out campus-wide, as well as an open forum. The committee ultimately decided that participation with both would be beneficial to the cause, and deliberated on the types of questions that would be offered on the survey. Kim suggested that there be an option for people to choose whether they are a student, faculty or alumni, and vary the questions accordingly. The committee considered the possibilities, and the final decision was to tailor our section to the various audiences. Dr. Clark requested that the proposed questions be submitted by noon on Monday, January 23rd, and reviewed by the committee that same week.

As for the forum, Margaret suggested that it be coupled with another subgroup to keep attendance at a maximum. Dr. Clark is to advise Ashley Schumaker of the motion, and a date will be announced in the near future.

An abbreviated exchange followed on the ways that we can achieve student success, such as more intensive mentoring, intervention, and a revision of lower level instructors and scheduling. An agreeance to continue the discussion was approved by all.

A follow up meeting to review proposed questions for the survey, as well as further discussion on all topics, was set for Wednesday, January 25th, at 4:00PM in Heth 207.