October 17, 2018
10:30 a.m.-Noon
115B The 329 Building, Innovation Park or by Zoom*
Minutes

Attendees: L. Wright, Chair; A. Adams, A. Adolph, J. Campbell, M. Corby, J. Edmondson, W. Fritz, D. Gruendler, R. Hart, D. Hochstetler, C. Horner, M. Kunes, L. Laing, A. Maxson, E. McFeely, H. McGarry, B. Redmond, M. Rice, D. Rodgers, H. Sankey, B. Seymour, E. Shumac, D. Smith, T. Spevak, R. Thornton-Roop, K. Wolgast, J. Wills, C. Anderson, recorder

1. Announcements and updates
   a. Approve minutes from September 19, 2018 Liz set a motion and minutes were approved
   b. Announcements
2. Guests
   a. Undergraduate Admissions Update, Clark Brigger, Executive Director, Undergraduate Admissions

      Beginning with definition of a Penn State Adult Learner.
      Leading the effort of Lion Path to be friendlier and help with the transfer students.
      Transfer Credit Specialist – work with Lion path and high order matters.
      Transfer Credit improvement- hiring someone to help with this. This person would go out to two-year colleges and recruit students to further their education.

      Development and Transfer credits- turns into 19 separate pieces.
      Franklin – Tool allows a current or transfer students to add in all their classes and helps recognize classes to get the student plugged into the right classes and major.

      *See PowerPoint slides in the members' shared Box folder

      Paid in WC – is the accepting of coming to WC not necessarily meaning paying for it right off the bat.

      Penn State 2025- Making it a seamless transition for students.
      Transfer students have been a higher demographic.

      Questions/ Discussion:

Working on connecting with CRM. Want to leave room for some kind of interface for consistent messaging throughout from prospect stage through transition.

Do Directors of Admissions know about this site? Meets bi-weekly with transfer experts across the university and they are aware of this a functionality being explored.

Where are we with offering credit for experience to help someone coming in? Working on legislatively this year with Faculty Senate around military credits. Big picture would like to have something that works this way. Some states have already been legislated to do this. Will be sharing with Senate committees next Tuesday, October 23. How can members help? Make their senators aware that this is important. Send viable examples to Michele Rice to demonstrate kinds of experience need to be in scope when updating related policy.

    b. Financial Aid Update, Melissa Kunes, Assistant Vice President for Undergraduate Education and Executive Director of the Office of Student Aid

*See PowerPoint in Box (Commission on Adult Learners Presentation Oct 2018) Dealing with a broader aspect for the adult learners.
Most students get Financial Aid being an adult learner or not.

Annual report: View the PowerPoint in Box.
    Essential cost is only for the student- Many of the Adult Learners have families, and this does not apply for the families it is only for the student.

Updated: adult Aid Recipients: Profile/Characteristics

New Sponsored Programs/Grants
    See written notes in PowerPoint.

Questions/Discussion:
    Discussion of impact if student does not qualify because parent does not qualify for ParentPlus.

3. Liaison and Committee reports
    a. 21st Century Access
- Narrow and combine original discussion topics

- WHO? - Should there be a new definition of how we define Adult Learner and understand this population today?
  - Basic criteria remains the same, but, more Adult Learners today are millennials with greater student debt, and lives not necessarily better than their parents

- WHAT? – Identify FAQs of the Adult Learner and develop a strategy to provide answers/information/resources in a consistent manner
  - Outreach to students from campus prior to registration – possible outreach may include: career goal questionnaire, option of math placement test
  - Survey AECs to identify FAQs at their campus

- HOW? – Obtain data (from UP, Commonwealth Campuses, World Campus) providing information on where the Adult Learner is admitted and how many complete the ETM requirements to gain entry to intended programs. How many change direction?
  - Comprehensive advising specific to the Adult Learner
  - Review of admission process for the Adult Learner; is it Adult Learner friendly?

b. Charting the Course

   Ideas/questions for benchmarking

   1. Does your institution/organization have a working definition of "Adult Learner"? Is so, will you please share it with us?
   2. Do you have a formal group at your institution/organization charged with advocating on behalf of Adult Learners? If so, what is its composition and reporting lines and how is it funded?
   3. Does your institution/organization have any formal groups charged with advocating on behalf of various sub-population of students? If so, what are their composition and reporting lines?
   4. Do you have any programming specifically tailored to meet the learnings needs of Adult Learners? Will you please share details of these programs?
   5. Do you consider your institution/organization conducive to the needs of Adult Learners?
   6. What percentage of your students (graduate and undergraduate) would be considered Adult Learners?
   7. Do you have any policy or procedures that are tailored to support Adult Learners? If so, can you describe them for us?
   8. What challenges do you see as most significant for Adult Learners from a learning perspective as well as from an institutional perspective?
   9. Do you have effective communication strategies to ensure Adult Learners are engaged with opportunities across your institution/organization?
   10. Does your institution/organization have any specific recruitment initiatives for adult learners?
   11. Are there other aspects about your institution/organization's commitment to Adult Learners that you would like to share?

c. Adult Learner Engagement Committee (ALEC)
   Plan to do some data mining: opportunity grants and student abroad are areas of interest.

d. AEC Liaisons/Sharing adult learner initiatives at campuses

e. Hendrick Award and Conference Planning

- A call for award nominations will be submitted by Friday, 10/5/18. This should allow for communications to be distributed the week of 10/15/18, with a nomination deadline of 11/30/18.
- We reviewed and finalized our communication channel for award and conference announcements.
- We are checking to see if the Student Affairs conference conflicts with Hendrick this year.
- We are checking to see if the Learning Center Directors will cross-advertise our conference with their annual meeting.
- We began work on the overall agenda for the day
  - Conference format was discussed. Possibility of moving the student panel to the end of the lunch hour, with a round-table style closing session (perhaps covering benchmarking from the Charting the Course Task Force), and offering a raffle for a free registration to next year's conference to those in attendance at the closing session.
  - Dr. Barron's and Dr. Jones' offices are being contacted to determine their availability for offering brief remarks at the start of the conference.
  - Kim Barger and Terry Watson, Student Disability Resources (SDR) at UP & WC, have agreed to offer a session on adult students with disabilities.
  - The new Commonwealth Campus Retention group was contacted to determine interest in offering a session on retention efforts surrounding adult students.
  - Maria Schmidt and Esther Prins, College of Education, were contacted regarding suggestions for keynote speakers and/or innovations in adult learning as possible session topics..
  - The committee is also researching keynote speakers: possibilities are Jeff, Borden, Goldie Blumenstyk, and Brenda Williams. Other suggestions are welcome as well.

  f. Faculty Senate Liaison
     Nothing to add.
  g. Military and Veterans Affairs Liaison
     Nothing to add.

Reminder: The November 14 meeting is going to be at Penn State Hazelton.

Submitted by Chaustin Anderson