

Achieving the Dream Core Team
Meeting Summary
March 10, 2009
3:15 p.m.

Present: Peg Moir - Chair, Richard Birk, Sheila Campbell, John Falls, Beth Franz, Kate Peresie, Margaret Puckett, Bob Robbins, Traci Lykins - recorder

Absent: Ken McCreight, Don Plotts, Tom Prendergast, Keith Stoner, Bev Walker

Poverty Simulation

Peg Moir reported that she recently forwarded to the Core Team an email she received from Anne Seifert about the Community Action Poverty Simulation scheduled for May 6, 8:30 am to noon. This exercise is good for front-line staff, Financial Aid staff, and those who have direct student contact. The last one, which was held on March 5, filled up quickly and was very well received. Contact Anne Seifert if interested. A flyer with her phone number is attached to the email Moir forwarded.

Gates Foundation RFP

Moir reported that the sub-team for the Gates Foundation grant met yesterday. They arrived at a consensus about how to proceed on the grant. For Strategic Direction 1; to hold developmental education classes in the same physical space and have a shared lab facility and better coordination/layering of course schedule. They have less of a comfort level with Strategic Direction 2. Under this category they want to expand the Solutions program and build off the math boot camp strategy. Also to incorporate a strategy to somehow work with students who take the ACT Explore and Plan assessments that are given at area high schools. Strategic Direction 3 ties to number 1 but is more specific to interventions relative to each instructor's own class. Tom Prendergast will be talking with faculty members individually for more input. They also talked about possibly incorporating the conversion of developmental education courses from quarter to semester format. Bob Robbins asked about including an initiative involving financial aid and Moir suggested he ask for these dollars under the regular AtD budget next year.

We came back to this topic later in the meeting when most people came late. Richard Birk and John Falls reported on the sub-team meeting from their perspective and the group had further lengthy discussion. Moir again reiterated that the deadline for submitting the grant proposal is April 15 which is fast approaching. Falls suggested that we at least get a rough draft on paper to start working with. Kate Peresie again noted that she would like to see something built in about helping students who are already in their programs. There was concern expressed again about getting enough by-in from the college community. Moir noted that she has asked Brad McCormack to include someone from Facilities to talk about dev ed space needs, Bev Walker and Sandra Luckie are involved from Advising and Tutoring, and the Developmental Education faculty is involved, so everybody at least has a representative involved that should report back to their divisions.

There is another meeting of the sub-team this Thursday, March 12, at 3:00. The group also discussed and decided upon meeting next week, on Tuesday and Thursday at 3:00. Moir will reserve the room. Some members have other meetings and will arrive late.

Solutions Update

Moir distributed a handout created by Kristin Arnold, Solutions instructor, about the status of students currently in the Solutions program. The Solutions program offers a choice to students who place via COMPASS into the lowest reading, writing, and math to work on academic skills before retaking COMPASS in an effort to raise their scores before entering courses. The status report gives a brief update of each student.

On Course Training Status Report

Margaret Puckett reported to the group about the On Course training that was held August 9, 2008. A Perkins grant was received for 7000 dollars to hold this workshop for FYE faculty. The workshop lasted for eight hours and was considered mandatory for FYE faculty. It was also open to developmental education faculty. A stipend was paid to those attending. Moir asked about whether impact was measured and noted that the strategy should show impact on instruction. Puckett noted there was no way to measure outcome. Moir noted that future proposals must have follow-up and a way to measure impact built in.

Spring Quarter Meeting Dates

The group discussed Spring Quarter meeting dates and decided upon the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 3:00 p.m.

Other

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

The next Core Team meeting will be Wednesday, March 25, 1:00 p.m., room 149-F