

FACULTY WORKSHOP FALL 2007

ACHIEVING THE DREAM COPS EXERCISE COMPILED RESULTS

Group 1

Concerns

- Student preparedness

Opportunities

- Really see what contributes to student success
- Money to inform and educate

Problems

- Incorrect advising
- Low income families hard to reach
- Financial aid available to middle class
- Entering student lack basic skills

Strengths

- Faculty talents
- Our people work together & care about students
- 100% placement of nursing students

Group 2

Concerns

- Ill-prepared students for college learning
- How to measure success?
- Need more info on what this is exactly
- Barriers for target group

Opportunities

- Opportunities for low income people to attend college
- Draw students who might not have considered college
- Faculty expertise

Problems

- Low number of faculty
- Salaries are not high enough to attract more educators needed to achieve this dream
- Students attending college just for the money – not interested in an education

Strengths

- Dynamic faculty
- Opportunities for low-income people to attend college
- Focus on student success

Group 3

Concerns

- With this initiative there is a push to increase graduation rates. The concern would be pressure for grade inflation
- Nothing with change – numbers = money

Opportunities

- Faculty retirement with faculty replacement at lower salaries may allow a raise in our base pay
- Opportunity to reach diversity of students with strategies

Problems

- All aspects of communication: technology, opportunity, quantity, time to do it
- Student work ethic

Strengths

- Caring, concern for students, faculty and staff dedication

Group 4

Concerns

- Lowering standards
- Resources available for correcting identified problems

Opportunities

- Address specific issues
- Gather data on students who drop

Problems

- Money when funding runs out
- No data on who drops and why

Strengths

- Actual data collection
- Outside help with data
- Accountability
- Willingness to change

Group 5

Concerns

- Who gets the brunt of this extra paperwork?
- Will the accuracy of data collected that truly reflect our overall situation
- Loss of enthusiasm for program down the road – a year of so later

Opportunities

- Chance to fix problems known by all but addressed by none
- To truly meet our mission
- Increased retention

Problems

- Exclusion of students
- What will be done once problem is identified?
- How many more committees will I be on because of this?

Strengths

- Additional dollars for the college and its programs

- Dedicated people willing to put forth effort to make students/program successful
- Promotes change/progress

Group 6

Concerns

- Will the college be willing to go through another culture change since we just went through a major change(s)? (Merger & all others)
- How will we maintain the funding after initiative?

Opportunities

- Positive public relations for the college

Problems

- Buy in from tired, overworked faculty

Strengths

- It will allow money to be used for such things as adjunct training

Group 7

Concerns

- Will there be a budget to continue past five years?
- Lack of communication

Opportunities

- Strengthen community partnerships

Problems

- Keeping up with technology

Strengths

- Frequent oversight by outside agency/accountability

Group 8

Concerns

- What are the obligations (institution/individual)?
- Structure of initiative – who decides?
- How will faculty get feedback?

Opportunities

- It is a wonderful opportunity for both faculty & students to explore and find “avenues of success.”
- Exciting National Initiative
- Improve retention

Problems

- How will information be distributed (campus-wide)?
- Is “subjective” data enough to push the ATD initiative?
- Will there be specific Gatekeeper course feedback?

Strengths

- NPCC’s heart for success (faculty, admin. & student)
- Commitment to improvement
- Identify gatekeeper courses and working to make them more accessible to students

Group 9

Concerns

- Collection and use of data and how to manage that data
- More bureaucracy, more paperwork time to vote on it
- Communication across campus

Opportunities

- Increased retention and graduation rates may increase funding for campus
- Focus on student problems and issues
- Networking to make things better

Problems

- Getting everyone on board
- Allocation of available resources
- Will it really tell us what we need to know? May shift focus away from other issues

Strengths

- Faculty is well qualified and caring
- College will receive recognition in leadership role
- Having the money to implement ideas

Group 10

Concerns

- There has not been much said about standards, just success/retention

Opportunities

- Creative solutions to improve retention

Problems

- Data collection will add to already overwhelmed faculty

Strengths

- College commitment to student success

Group 11

Concerns

- Does retention take precedence over quality
- Are our students adequately prepared
- Will our students buy into what we need
- Many barriers are out of our control – jobs, kids, health, personal

Opportunities

- Positive change in lives
- Systematic and data driven direction
- Recruitment benefits – improved graduation rate

Problems

- We need exit interviews to know problems
- Students are misplaced
- Language barriers, especially Nursing/Health care and extra time

Strengths

- Our mission and true concern for students
- Experience of faculty

Group 12

Concerns

- Where does the money go? Primarily outside facilitators?
- Will we lose sight of those students who do not have a disparity?
- We already have programs in place to accomplish these goals – How is this any different?

Opportunities

- Chance to realize better ways to teach and reach at risk students/help them achieve their goals.
- Can it help us retain students more effectively?
- Reach out to those students with ability/motivation/initiative/interest and improve goals for life long learning.

Problems

- Tasks added to already heavy schedule and teaching load with possibility of minimum outcome
- Many high school students are very underprepared
- Who is in charge of collecting the data, bringing the data together and implementing what needs to be done.

Strengths

- Faculty and administration care about student success
- Willing to go the extra mile to help students to be successful