

CALL TO ORDER

President Moore called College Council to session at 2:03 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.

ATTENDEES

Council Members Present: Mary-Rita Moore, Erica Baffa, Andrea Bangura, Christopher Clem, Humberto Espino, Dayanne Figueroa, Michael Flaherty, Audrey Jonas, Kevin Li, James Malarski, Vezire Osmani, Susan Rohde, Purva Rushi, Megan Sroka, Shelley Tiwari, Kurian Tharakunnel.

Others Present: Sandra Berryhill, Jeramie Bizzle, Maria Correa, Raquel Cotuno, Serena Fahnbulleh Crain, Christina Hunt, Paul Jensen, Denise Jones, Patrick Kane, Joe Klinger, Justyna Koc, Jodi Koslow Martin, James Mlynski, Tim Nystrom, Gretchen Reyes, Betsy Sparrow, Belkis Torres-Capeles, Norma Villasenor, Brenda Jones Watkins, Tracy Wright, Jean.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Flaherty made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 31, 2020 College Council meeting, seconded by Ms. Baffa. The motion carried unanimously.

HOT TOPICS

Ms. Baffa commented that she was asked to bring questions about Hourlies being moved to different departments and having hours reduced. As this is outside the realm of College Council, President Moore offered to meet with Ms. Baffa separately.

Mr. Clem discussed the closure of the library last Monday and Tuesday, expressing concern that the closure of this critical support service was not announced to students and faculty. Ms. Moore acknowledged that communication about this issue was not handled as well as it could have been. She has asked for a clear communication protocol for closure of a public space so this will be handled appropriately in the future, if necessary.

OPERATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Mr. Tharakunnel reported that Operational Assembly met on September 14 and provided the following highlights. Academic Affairs reported that Continuing Education is working to offer supervised activities for children of students in the second-7 weeks of the semester. Student Affairs reported \$600,000 of CARES Act funding has been disbursed to students, and many more applications for aid have been received for the \$2.1 million total funding available to students through this grant. Human Resources reported that DCFS mandated reported training is underway for all employees.

ACADEMIC SENATE

Dr. Flaherty reported that Academic Senate met on September 8 and provided the following highlights from the subcommittees. Curriculum continues to do revisions as it goes through the entire catalog, and there is a new paralegal studies certificate. Six new online courses are being developed. Curriculum will also be discussing how students will be connected to programs, related to Guided Pathways. Academic & Scholastic Standards will be looking at withdrawal policies this year. Professional Development has sent out a survey regarding the

virtual in-service to gather feedback. New Assessment Chair Krysti Reece will be meeting with HLC during their verification visit, and assessment fellows assignments are being finalized.

Dr. Flaherty also reported that a change was made to Senate bylaws to allow for a representative from the Education Department, which will be a joint rep with Health, Sports & Exercise Science. Also, a new subcommittee was developed, currently named Distance Education & Technology. This replaces the former TADEC Committee and was put in place because of the new reality of remote teaching.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Ms. Tiwari provided the following Guided Pathways updates. Under the pillar one workgroup, program maps have been shared with department chairs and coordinators. The mapping workgroup has been setting up meetings with faculty. Under pillar two, the first-year experience is being looked at. Also, preparation has begun for the Achieving the Dream coaches visit in early October.

OLD BUSINESS

COLLEGE COUNCIL GOAL 2

Dr. Rushi reminded College Council representatives to have communication with their employee or department groups, as there have been comments from groups about not getting information from their rep and not having opportunity to present topics to Council. One of the goals this year is to improve communications and there is a template available for providing information to constituents. Dr. Rushi asked that anyone needing assistance reach out to her.

There was discussion about different groups wanting different levels of communication and the importance of finding a balance in communication.

NEW BUSINESS

MAXIMIZING RETENTION TOOLS

Student Success Strategist Christina Hunt was introduced as manager of key retention initiatives that partner with faculty in the classroom and student support staff across campus, such as Peer Mentors, Virtual Navigators, and Retention Alert. Ms. Hunt discussed Retention Alert which is an early alert system designed to improve student success and student retention. The different support areas involved are Academic Advisors, the Academic Success Center, the Center for Access & Accommodative Services, Counselors, Financial Aid Specialists, Student Success Strategists, as well as Student Life, TRIO, TEAM, Triumph/Surge, and different academic cohorts on campus. Ms. Hunt described how Retention Alert works within Guided Pathways in Pillar 3, helping students stay on the path, and discussed goals to maximize the tool, analyze trends, and to respond intentionally with care.

Representatives from Persistence Plus, Serena Crain and Betsy Sparrow, shared an update on

“Trudy,” which provides text-message nudges to students. What started a year ago with nudges to approximately 1,000 students has grown to over 4,200 students this fall with the goal of increasing enrollment. The nudges help students by building an identity as a Triton student, connecting students to services and resources, reminding of academic deadlines, highlighting the value of a degree, and dispelling myths. From fall 2019 to spring 2020, there was a 5 percent increase of persistence for students receiving nudges. Samples of nudges and responses were shared. For example, when the pandemic first hit, messages were developed about receiving tech items and keeping students connected. When a reminder was sent about completing the FAFSA, 260 students requested the link for more information, and 75 percent of those students enrolled for the fall term.

Dr. Flaherty commented regarding Retention Alert, that consistency will be key to make it a success. He suggested that a presentation be made regarding retention at the October Academic Senate meeting.

Ms. Sroka commented that she enjoys receiving the Trudy nudges. There was discussion about students opting out of receiving the text messages if they want, and it was confirmed that all credit students are receiving the messages this semester.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of College Council is October 19, 2020 at 2 p.m. on Microsoft Teams.

OTHER

Dr. Flaherty reminded that Academic Senate will meet on the third Tuesday in October.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Flaherty made a motion, seconded by Ms. Sroka, to adjourn the meeting. College Council was adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

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