

GRADUATION INITIATIVE 2025 TASK FORCE

Meeting Notes

Wednesday, January 13, 2021

Zoom Meeting 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Present:

Debra Jackson (Chair), Marta Ruiz (Admin Support), Claudia Catota, Denise Romero, Doreen Anderson-Facile, Dwayne Cantrell, Faust Gorham, Ilaria Pesco, James Drnek, James Rodriguez, Kimber Wellman, Lisa Zuzarte, Luis Vega, Markel Quarles, Michael Lukens, Monica Malhotra, ORG-ASIPresident (Vanessa Chicaiza), Tanya Boone-Holladay

Absent: Arron Hedge, Jennifer McCune, Nyakundi Michieka

The meeting began at 3:00 pm.

Debra Jackson begins by welcoming everyone back, she wants to make sure we keep moving forward with the retention and equity gap goals of GI 2025.

Recap of GITF work since June - D. Jackson recaps where we are and what our focus is this year for the GI 2025 and stating she is proud of the work that has been done so far.

- We released an update to the campus about the efforts from last year, 2019-2020
- As a group, we decided to focus efforts on retention and closing equity gaps. This is in part because there is another group, the Graduation Action Team, that is focused specifically on moving the needle for the 6-year and 4-year graduation rates for native students, and the 4-year, and 2-year graduation rates for transfer students.
- We reoriented ourselves to pay attention to the six pillars of the graduation initiative and to identify strategies to employ this year. To help with retention and closing equity gaps, we have various leads on those projects and we are working on identifying the measures that we will use to determine the effectiveness of those strategies.
- The last thing that was accomplished thus far is the allocation of \$20,000 in mini-grants to support three projects that were proposed for support from this team, Jackson is looking forward to hearing how those projects unfold this semester.

Updates from Graduation Action Team— Jackson shared that at the last Graduation Action Team meeting, they gave an update on where they believe they are in terms of FTF student progress toward their graduation date. The low-end projection for the 2020/2021 4-year graduation rate for Native students is outstanding at 27.24% and the highest projection number is 31.07%, which exceeds our 2025 goal of 30%. In the last year 2019/2020, we exceeded the 74% target for FTT, it was 74.4%, Jackson suggests we applaud the Associate Deans and the advisors for their amazing work on that effort, as she gets more updates she will share them with the group.

Updates re: Pillar Strategies and Measures - Jackson shared a revised version of the pillars and strategies spreadsheet and tried to update it as best she could from the information that was shared at the last meeting and via email from T. Boone-Halladay on the Financial Support Subgroup and F. Gorham on Data-Informed Decision-Making. We still have a couple of empty spaces in terms of determining what success looks like when we are thinking about how we are implementing these strategies and whether they're working to make a difference.

Academic Preparation – D. Jackson - has no updates at this time.

Enrollment Management – L. Vega and J. Rodriguez - They will begin to meet weekly, they do have some indicators now in addition to what is listed, they will include in analyzing the data collected from the students.

- At this point in the ALT, we are concerned with many students that have not registered, so we will track them down and put that as an indicator for communication with the freshmen and continuing students as well.

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- In terms of getting the admissions and financial aid offer to the students, we may be using the links we have with the community colleges and it may be increasing the communication for transfer students and perhaps to the high school students, we will be working on those indicators.

Jackson asks that as they begin to meet if they have any updates to the spreadsheets, they share either by email or bring the updates to the next meeting.

Student Engagement and Well-Being - J. Drnek, V. Chicaiza, M. Quarles, I. Pesco - They do not have any updates yet, they are meeting biweekly, which will allow making a lot more progress.

- We felt it was important to connect with the people that are responsible for these areas, meet and talk with them about how we can help them meet these goals. We didn't want to do any work independent of that, we feel that was very important.
- We will be meeting with CECE to find out if they have a roadmap for students to utilize as incoming freshmen and things that they should do to prepare themselves to get a job.
- They will reach out and invite the CECE Director, Katrina Gilmore to be part of their subcommittee.
- Pesco mentions that under student engagement, they have a student engagement survey that will be done in the springtime for measuring student engagement.
- Boone-Holladay mentions virtual and in-person mental health services, as a way of capturing the unmet need in the student engagement lobby.

Financial Support - N. Michieka, A. Hegde, K. Wellman, T. Boone-Holladay - An email was sent from Financial Aid about financial aid workshops, K. Wellman is helping to track how many students apply for scholarships to increase that. We will begin meeting again on the second week of the term and then will have regular meetings throughout spring.

- The notion of reducing textbook and course materials costs will be one we work on, we will invite Sandra Bozarth to come to talk with us and see what kind of data she has and see if there is anything this committee can do to help promote open education resources on campus and with faculty.
- We also thought about tracking the rentals and returns of books at the bookstore, to get an idea of what percentage of our books are being rented and are our students truly aware of that option.
- K. Wellman will send a link for scholarships to the Student Success Network, this way the advisors receive it as well and can push it out.

Data-Informed Decision-Making- F. Gorham, M. Malhotra – They are doing a ton of planning work in this area and also trying to bring the data environment up in a way that we can begin to bring some data.

- **Campus-Wide Data Initiative** - We have a certificate program underway, discussions with CSU Fullerton and San Marcos are going to get planned, we'll be discussing the governance component, technical storage output via Tableau or Blackboard analytics, data champions within departments, and Tableau report training.
- **Student Access Analytics** - We are working with D. Cantrell, we've had our first meeting with the team.
- **Tableau Dashboards on DFW's** - Using the CSU Student Success Dashboards working with M. Malhotra to get the disaggregated data and provide this data to Retention, Tutoring, and Chairs to work on remediating the issue.
- **Student Support Services** - To enhance our upcoming courses, a subgroup has been created with Kyle Susa, Kris Grappendorf, Markel Quarles, and Jennifer McCune and they will begin to develop those metrics.

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- **Professional Development on enhancing pedagogy to support student success** – We asked Rebecca Weller to join the team and lead this effort and then decide using data and the use of student support services.
- **Disaggregated Data** - Gorham and Quarles will work to start pulling Student Affairs data, Pull RunnerConnect data, the Tutoring data has been put up into the box governance group.

Administrative Barriers - D. Cantrell, C. Catota - This group meets biweekly.

- **Barriers that students are currently facing with the application process** - We are looking at how that process and ease of navigation of various applications may be impacting students coming to the door. One of the challenges we will be meeting about is how to get measurables on some of these things.
- **Financial aid** - They implemented a call center and it is running however, the question is, how do we get data from it. As a modality of student service, this is something that could work for many, we are looking into how to measure it.
- We are discussing how to provide information for parents to keep them informed, while still staying in compliance with FERPA.
- We looked at student fees and discussed a payment plan.
- We discussed extended student hours, we have several things on the table to be discussed.

Results Sharing re Pillars - Jackson would like to move the group in the spring term to start thinking about the results of everyone's efforts. This way you can see how the strategies are working and whether we need to make adjustments quickly to be able to enact the goals you are trying to accomplish. She presents an example of the Academic Preparation pillar, which she is working on with the EO 1110 team. This is only the preliminary data (it is a draft) to present an example of the way that each group can pay attention to what your efforts are and then take a look at the results so you can make adjustments as you're moving forward.

This group had identified three strategies that we were going to work toward These all come out of the Chancellor's Office recommendations.

- A first-year quantitative reasoning instruction workshop for those instructors teaching first-time freshmen quantitative reasoning courses
- A peer mentoring program for first-year students
- Student success videos that have been developed and released to the campus to provide students with information about how to be successful in virtual learning

In terms of thinking about those measures, we are going to look at participating rates and continuing engagement of those faculty who participated in the workshops, paying attention to student participation, course completion, and term retention for the students participating in the mentor program. Look at how many people are looking at those videos.

Jackson would like to see the results that have been collected for the Financial Support group along with Student Engagement and Well-Being group, they will present at the next meeting, everyone else is on notice they will be asked to present afterward.

Adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Next Meeting Wednesday, February 10, 2021