

## **Graduation Initiative 2025 Task Force**

Monday, March 6, 2023

Zoom Meeting

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Present:** Debra Jackson (Chair), Deisy Mascarinas (Admin Support), Denver Fowler, Luis Vega, Janine Cornelison, Monica Malhotra, Aaron Hegde, Elizabeth Adams, Faust Gorham, Markel Quarles, Ilaria Pesco,

**Absent:** James Rodriguez, Kristen Watson, Claudia Catota, Dwayne Cantrell, Jennifer McCune, Jonathan Young, Carson Vollmer

**Meeting began at 2:00 p.m.**

### **WSCUC Prep Discussion**

- WSCUC will be doing a special visit with our campus and check on the progress of the seven recommendations that were provided to us during the last accreditation review in 2019. One of the groups they will be meeting with is the GI 2025 taskforce based on the following concerns:
  - “Consider ways to evaluate what practices lead to increased student success, particularly in math, and identify stable and continued funding for those practices.”
  - “Continue to disaggregate retention and graduation data as one means to assess impacts of their various efforts, and to connect demographic-based enrollment, retention and graduation rate data.”
- WSCUC has been provided with the graduation rates data from spring 2019 to spring 2022 and retention rates for the same period disaggregated to assess equity gaps. The commission will be talking to the group about the work we have been doing and how we are determining the effectiveness of the different strategies that we have been employing. They will meet with the group Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> and the exit meeting will be Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. During the exit meeting they will provide their findings to us.
- D. Jackson shared that we are very close to hitting our target for our first-time freshman 4-year graduation rate of 30%, as we are currently at 29.58%. Our equity gaps have not been as successful since the last WSCUC visit in 2019. The 6-year URM gap were at 4.1 points and now it is at 4.3 points and the 6-year Pell gap was at 4.6 points and it is now at 10.0 points.
- The institutional report that was shared with WSCUC may not have very well covered the grants and reassigned time awards that this group gave out. The group may share with the commission how the grants turned into something actionable.

### **Academic Probation Workgroup Update**

- The president signed the reform in approval to change the academic probation term to academic notice.
- The Student Success Analytics Program wants to partner with the Academic Probation Workgroup in an effort so that students can hopefully move from what’s now academic notice standing to good standing rather than to disqualify.
- D. Fowler shared a list of items that need to be reviewed and updated regarding the terminology change to academic notice, which includes forms, academic standing letters, web pages, people’s titles, communications, etc.
- The group will review and edit the language of the academic standing letters to be more mindful on how it affects the students and their sense of belonging. They also want to work on being more mindful of when the letters are sent out during holiday breaks.
- The academic notice workshops are currently offered in online-synchronous and online-asynchronous modalities, and they are looking into offering it in hyflex modality. They will also review the content and the delivery of the workshops.
- D. Fowler met with the Dean of Students, Emily Poole Callahan, and they discussed the possibility of reviewing student complaint and grievance procedures as part of this work.
- A communication will be sent out campus wide regarding the change in terminology.

- D. Jackson suggested to discuss this change with ASI. ASI leaders could provide feedback in terms of what language is triggering and what language is more supportive.
- L. Vega suggested that other campuses like Channel Islands and Northridge had also made this change in terminology and maybe they could share best practices that we could benefit from.
- D. Jackson suggested for Department Chairs and Deans to have more direct communication with students that are facing academic difficulties.

### **GI 2025 Pillars Updates**

- Student Engagement & Well-Being** – M. Quarles shared that they came up with 9 strategies across the division focused on closing the equity gaps. They are in the process of assessing the effectiveness of those strategies. They will provide the group with a report based on their findings. D. Jackson suggested for this sub-group to share information with the WSCUC team during the special visit. She will also add this information in the next GI 2025 update that goes out to the campus. I. Pesco mentioned they will have updated numbers on clubs and organizations, and they will be reprising the involvement survey that started before the pandemic.
- Financial Support** – A. Hegde shared that they have improved access to scholarships so that students only fill out one application and that has resulted in more students getting grants. The OER committee is doing a pilot that will occur in the summer where students pay a certain amount to access textbooks digitally. Some of the work they are hoping to do is going towards 0 cost or low cost for course materials. Some of the programs that we currently have are the College Core Program and the Learning Aligned Experience Program.

On the next meeting the committee will discuss the next two pillars around ***data-informed decision-making*** and ***administrative barriers***.

**Meeting Adjourned: 3:00 p.m.**