Hawaii Graduation Initiative  
May 9, 2014  
8:00 – 9:30am, E109  
Meeting Notes

Present: Eun Ahn, Garyn Tsuru, Jim Cromwell, Michael Furuto, Sreang Heak, Hye Jung Kim, Lokelani Kenolio, Leslie Opulauoho, Amy Nishimura, Stephanie Kamai, Sherry Proper, Terri Ota

I. GradesFirst Update – Margy was unable to make the meeting and submitted a report in advance

- Although there were some start-up technological and staffing issues, for the most part the GradesFirst pilot program was very successful. Renewal of the GradesFirst license is dependent on the Title III grant renewal, which may not be known until sometime in the fall. It may be possible to draw money from another source to pay for the basic operations of the GradesFirst system until we know whether we will have Title III funding.
- Grades will post for spring semester on May 13th, then additional analysis can be done to determine the effectiveness of the pilot program.
- Margy may survey the pilot faculty for additional information on how they perceived the pilot phase.
- It is yet to be determined if we should “scale up” or “scale down” the GradesFirst efforts. For example, it was difficult for support services to reach everyone who needed assistance in the pilot program (need to scale down), but it would be really helpful to include ALL new students (freshmen and transfers) in the GradesFirst program (need to scale up).
- Leslie and Margy will make more specific recommendations/plans after more analysis has been done and funding is known. Most likely, our GradesFirst efforts will continue in phases and subgroups.

II. Retention Subcommittee Update – Jim

- After conducting a “leavers’ survey” for two semesters with poor participation (11 and 9 student responders), the Retention Subcommittee developed a “current student satisfaction survey” to be administered to all current students.
- The current student survey was distributed to 1,890 enrolled students (nonclassified non-degree, running start high school students, and freshmen who are enrolled < 15 credits were excluded). There were 227 responders for a 12% response rate.
- The areas that students were surveyed in included, 1) the academic experience, 2) student support experience, 3) student life experience, 4) levels of importance, and 5) frequency of contact.
  - Underclassmen valued more student life
  - Always a high point, students feel that faculty care about them
- There was a suggestion that the questions on desired major might be more fleshed out, and perhaps a questions on career development.
There was low usage of the Student Lounge; they will be asking Sreang for more information/analysis on this.

Copy of Jim Cromwell’s presentation attached.

Eun mentioned that a recent factor is that relationships are more important in helping to retain students.

Margy will be conducting a CIRP survey; there was a question regarding whether students understand the terms that are used in the survey.

III. Sample Academic Plans Update: Leslie reported that they are still on track to have the sample academic plans (academic maps) available to students for the Fall. They would also like to work with faculty regarding rotation of the courses.

IV. Placement into MATH: Mike Furuto reported that there are discussions for using ACT/SAT scores for placement, and the process; perhaps using class grades, with test scores and placement scores. There would also need to be language to put into the catalog for this; possible implementation in Fall 2014.

V. Future Meeting Dates and Times: No meeting in June; but a possible July 11 meeting at 9 am (was cancelled).

For the Fall, there was consensus that 2nd Friday at 8 am would be fine.
STUDENT EXPERIENCE SURVEY 2014

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT WEST O'AHU
HGI RETENTION SUBCOMMITTEE

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STUDENT EXPERIENCE SURVEY

Groups Excluded:
- Unclassified, running start
- Freshmen with less than 16 earned hours were excluded since they are completing their first year survey at the same time

5 MAIN AREAS IN SURVEY
1. Academic Experience
2. Student Support Experience
3. Student Life Experience
4. Levels of Importance
5. Frequency of Contact

University of Hawaii West Oahu

Survey Instrument:
What year were you enrolled at UH West Oahu?
- Year
- Fall 2014
- Summer
- Spring 2015

What is your major?
- Major
- A

What are your academic goals?
- Goals
- My major

What is your class standing?
- Class standing
- Freshman

What is your year of expected graduation?
- Expected graduation
- Spring 2015

Importance rating (1-5)
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
CLASS LEVEL DIFFERENTIATION

Freshmen & Sophomores  Juniors & Seniors

Under class Students  Upper class Students

The 11 Distance Education students that responded were too few to use in a separate group (worthy of a separate survey in future)
FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

Refine survey for next year:
- Provide drop down list for “desired major”
- Ask more explicit questions to better understand student's perspective (financial aid information, registration assistance, etc)
- Pair “levels of importance” questions with “experience” questions to better determine university strategies and priorities
- Discuss dates and target populations for future surveys
FULL REPORT

The full report on the Student Experience Survey is available on the KGI Laulima site, including student responses to:
“What is the most important thing UH West O'ahu can do to improve your student experience?”