



Hawaii Graduation Initiative
October 11, 2013; 8:00 – 9:30am
Room D235

- I. EDI Consultants Workshop (agenda attached) - October 22, 2013
 - i. Morning session regarding GradesFirst implementation - intended for all HGI Team members (except faculty during their class times) and academic division chairs or their designees
 - ii. Afternoon session regarding retention reports and recommendations - intended for HGI Retention Subcommittee + anyone else interested in retention (HGI team, division chairs or their designees) who can attend

There was general discussion about who should attend which session.

Some of the faculty were not aware of the program, so a short intro about it was given by Margy Ledward. The program can do a lot, but it depends on the skill of the user, and there was some concern that it was “tracking” students in a “big brother” way. There were suggestions that maybe students need to be informed that if GradesFirst was being used, how it would be utilized, so that when they get a call from an advisor, they don't feel like their privacy is being invaded.

It was suggested that because the faculty have varying ranges of computer skill, that the portions that were rolled out and introduced to the faculty be limited to a few things, to encourage them to use it. Suggested was perhaps how to contact advising about concerns about a student and an alert that a student might be in trouble academically.

There was additional discussion that it might be good to know what happens once a concern is posted---would the student be called or a message sent out? And what would the follow up be like. Faculty would also like to know what happened if a student was contacted, and whether there was there some kind of resolution. Faculty need to understand though, that if it is something that is referred to the psychologist, that there are some things that cannot be disclosed.

II. Updates

A. Sample Academic Plans – Leslie
Leslie: no update, but December is still the target for completion of the mapping.

B. Planning for Spring Registration – Jim:
The Course Planning Group met once regarding spring but plans are already being discussed regarding Fall. Plans are get 70% of students registered by June.

Pre-registration will be shortened to two weeks, then will open up to others. DE students also will be given 2 weeks as well. Then transfer students. To try to get more information on capacity. Compass placement testing needs to happen earlier.

Other strategies will be to have group advising for freshmen who are going on to their second year. It would be good to have the schedule ready as early as possible.

The faculty would like to be able to plan for an estimated amount and not have to make changes to add or especially to cancel any sections. There were concerns that there are ongoing problems with last minute hiring or ability to find lecturers.

From the faculty perspective, it was noted that Fall 2013 went smoother than Fall 2012, but need to keep looking at the process.

C. Retention Subcommittee – Sherry/Jim

Have been meeting weekly since August and the committee has been looking at reports that are current, and trying to determine what kinds of reports should be created on a regular schedule, and reviewing what already exists in the system.

Retention of transfer students is much better than freshmen. There needs to be more information collected on the retention of transfer students. We still need to monitor what is happening with transfer student retention to avoid enrollment problems among that group.

CIRP surveys were reviewed to see what was strong and where are major dangers are; will be compiling a summary of this.

The System is helping to define which schools are most like us (cluster analysis; peer group) and Jim mentioned we are also looking at schools with similar Carnegie classifications. In addition, we're trying to develop a proposed set of schools that are both peers and benchmarks (who we aspire to be).

A concern was raised that it was difficult to compare UHWO to mainland institutions, because we are very unique; also that the administration will make decisions on which institutions will be our benchmarks/peers. The retention committee will strive for a very transparent and inclusive process regarding the selection of benchmark institutions.

The Committee will come up with a proposed list of comparisons with administration and faculty; Ross' concern is that the administration will just make the decisions. Sherry mentions that the communication committee's work on a comprehensive communication plan, which encourages an inclusive process for these types of initiatives, should help with the sharing of information. Ross suggested this be vetted through the faculty, the best route being through the Division Chairs, who can share this with their faculty.

Stan shared some of the history of the communications committee, which has changed and been modified with the transition of several Communications Directors.

The plan is to have a draft of the communications plan that has been vetted by senior administration by the beginning of next semester for campus-wide distribution and input. The plan will include who we think we are, and where we think we are going, as well as specific recommendations in the area of communications. There will then be time for review & comment, with time to edit. The target is to have the comprehensive plan completed by end of spring.

Strategic plan needs to be re-done, but WASC report has priority.

D. Embedded Remedial Courses

There is ongoing discussion about the how this should be continued. The ENG 196C and MATH 196A with supplemental instruction will continue for the Spring 2014. There has been feedback that the students in the MATH have been doing well for the most part.

Courses will be going to Gen Ed to request FW for ENG 196 and FS for MATH 196.

II. Data

A. Retention Data Update

One year retention rates of freshmen were provided. For Fall 2012, 60.3% of freshmen returned for a second year; more females than males.

III. Other: With all the work that everyone is doing, Eun would like to start a different process for data requests, will be started next week. A form will be shared later.

Next meeting: November 8th @ 8am in room D235