

University Council Student Engagement and Success Committee

January 28, 2019

12:30 PM

Student Union 308

Minutes

Present: Barb Caillet, Katie Cerrone, Jennifer Manista, Ravi Krovi, Anwar Sadek, Carrie Short, Huey-Li Li, John Messina (joined meeting in progress)

Absent with notice: Renee Murry, Mary Schadle

Absent without notice: Sadhan Jana

1. Welcome/Roll Call
 - a. Introductions to Dr. Li
2. Approval December meeting minutes
 - a. Motion to approve: Anwar; Seconded: Ravi. Motion passed 6/0.
3. Recap of discussions with invited guests
 - a. Would like to see some of the key aspects of the summer program incorporated into the Akron Experience class. Discussion about which students are taking the Akron Experience class and its impact on student success. CBA has a class that helps get them acclimated. Jennifer mentioned that Biology is preparing a 1-credit class about how to be successful in a biology major. Huey-Li said the College of Education offers an "Intro to Education" course to all (including pre-majors). Ravi offered that it's a great opportunity to help students self-select out of the major if the class is too challenging for them.
 - b. Carrie and John spoke about the Future Zips workshops (reaching out with small-sized sessions for financial responsibility) – initially started as just for students whose confirmation fees were waived but starting to expand during the spring semester. These initiatives will be helpful to long-term goals even though they may affect initial enrollment.
4. First Year Experience Team –
 - a. Barb asked if we propose that the Akron Experience team work with each college. Katie said this would be a good path for renewing the First Year "Team," and it should include Brandon Mikulski (Director for Akron Experience) and each college to come up with a plan to share resources. Katie said she'll reach out to Brandon and John.
 - b. First-year attendance policy – Jennifer volunteered to bring some information back to the committee from other activities she's involved with.

- c. Ravi suggested a training day for faculty who work with first year students to review retention rates, student success, etc. to help everyone understand our role in the success of our students. Question - Is this something we would initiate and execute? Katie said no – we could possibly get this First Year Experience Team on board.
- 5. HIIT Speaker Series
 - a. Wednesday (using primary sources in research courses) is our next series. 15 people registered. The February (academic integrity) & March (engaging students in large lectures) series are set, we may have an April one.
- 6. Future steps for the committee
 - a. Katie will send a Doodle poll for the February meeting.