MEETING MINUTES
Student Engagement and Success Subcommittee
April 1, 2022 / 2 p.m.

In attendance: Andrea Jones, Barbara Blake Gonzalez, Beth Ann Dickie, Bob Clark, Carin Barber, Dan Richards, Daniella Cigularova, David Metzger, David Robichaud, Don Stansberry, Emily Ondracek-Peterson, Erin Colwell, Jeanette Shaw, John Sokolowski, Karthik Navuluri, Keanen McKinley, Shelly Beaver, and Siqi Guo
Not in attendance: August Kearney, Denise Claiborne, Hali Sanders, Hong Yang, Isaiah Smith, Maggie Robinson, and Vicki Williams

I. Student Engagement Data Review
Carin Barber gave an overview of student engagement data. Outreach programs, first-year student support, sophomore support, degree-completion programs, military programs, living-learning communities, and recreation and wellness engagement trends were discussed. A recap of engagement data based on engagement type, gender, and first-generation classification was presented. Additional data regarding students who did not progress was assessed. Approximately 1/3 of our students are engaged with SEES sponsored events on campus.

Carin presented information pertaining to the fall 2021 exit survey. A request for additional information on the exit survey was made, and the survey has since been posted to the TEAMS folder. Nearly 80% of respondents selected financial and academic reasons for exiting or transferred to another institution. Ways in which ODU can prevent students from withdrawing included demonstrating care for students and improving/updating facilities and programs. Credit hour requirements were reviewed, with an emphasis on increasing the average ODU Undergraduate credit hours to 15-credits per semester versus 12-credits per semester. The university 100 course was considered, which would provide an opportunity to teach our students about financial literacy. The team proposed making the credit hour course reimbursable to students.

A recap of ODU’s peer institutions who have higher graduation rates of at-risk students was presented. Peer institutions provided incentives to their students which increased overall student success. Incentive examples included financial
rewards for completing 15-credits, websites with language that students could easily understand, coaching for new students, and merit scholarships. Other options included allowing students to only take one high risk DFWI course, versus multiple DFWI courses. An online platform which provides students all the university’s available scholarships and financial opportunities was considered.

II. Identifying Breakout Subcommittees
The subcommittee will be divided into 4 groups of 4 or 5 members. Each group should identify 5 goals for the main subcommittee to review and be prepared to present them at the April 13 2022, meeting of the full subcommittee.

III. Review Challenges and Opportunities Subcommittee and Mission and Core Values Reports
The Challenges and Opportunities Subcommittee and Mission and Core Values Subcommittee have presented their preliminary information to the Steering Committee. Both reports are meant to be guides as we go through the process. The values were built from scratch and our mission statement has been revised. Student success was not discussed in detail in either report, something for our subcommittee to think about as the reports are not yet finalized. Both reports can serve to guide the subcommittee on goals moving forward.

IV. Review Student Success Definition
The definition of student success was reviewed, based on a new definition from Keanen McKinley. Revisions to Keanen’s definition were made and are available in the TEAMS folder. The group will continue to adjust the definition at future meeting dates.