

Goals and Accomplishments

Office for Student Services

Goal: In collaboration with Academic Services, address student retention to enhance enrollment.

Status:

Retention efforts had a direct effect on students' self-advocacy, self-assurance, and engagement. Faculty worked closely with students to support involvement and performance in and out of the classroom.

The co-curricular program provides many out-of-classroom learning opportunities for students that enhance the college experience. The success of these programs hinges on the dedicated involvement of teaching faculty who serve as advisors to over 50 clubs and organizations. The collaborative effort between Student Services and Academic Services provides connections for students who develop institutional loyalty and enhanced relationships with staff. Students who make these positive connections are much more likely to succeed academically and stay enrolled.

Supported department efforts of a Perkins-funded new African American Male Retention Program; collaborated with the Department of Human Services (DHS) to place DHS students in work experience placements at the college; and expanded efforts and received Perkins funding to provide retention initiatives to Latino males in 2008-2009.

The Financial Aid Office works closely with faculty in various academic departments for the selection of student recipients of scholarships specific to certain curriculums. This financial support is important in assisting students to meet the cost of attending and remaining enrolled in college.

The Athletic Department employs an academic advisor who works closely with faculty and coaches to assist student-athletes with academic advisement, enhanced communication between student-athletes and faculty, class attendance issues, team-sponsored study halls, tutoring services, and other issues related to success in the classroom.

The Student Behavior Consultation Team (SBCT), with representatives from Health Services, Advising and Counseling, Residence Life, Public Safety, DCC Student Services, and Student Services, works closely with faculty to address a variety of student behavioral and health-related issues that can affect student success in the classroom. Through assessment, counseling, referrals, and other interventions by SBCT members or other staff, students can often receive the support they need to achieve success and remain in school.

Office for Student Services

Goal: Further implement cognitive and non-cognitive assessment strategies used throughout the division.

Status:

The Student Services Assessment Committee worked closely with the departments in the division to strengthen assessment strategies in each area. A review of cognitive and non-cognitive variables was distributed and discussed with each director. Formal and non-formal assessment instruments were examined and a list of other assessment tools, i.e., portfolios, focus groups, direct observation, oral presentations, interviews etc., were discussed. The committee reviewed the cognitive and non-cognitive assessment instruments and shared the findings with the departments. A point-of-contact survey was developed utilizing five common (divisional) and individual department questions in the service areas in each department. Work in assessment strategies is ongoing. Point-of-service assessment will be implemented in every department during 2008-2009.

Goal: Develop operational policies and procedures for the management of the PAC Field House.

Status:

A planning group was formed with representatives from Campus Events, Athletics, Health and Physical Education, Public Safety, Recreation and Intramurals, and the Office of the Vice President, Student Services to develop the policies and procedures for the management of the PAC. The primary uses of the PAC will be for teaching health and physical education classes, practice for athletic teams, open recreation for the college community, intramurals, community usage, and fund-raising activities.

A schedule has been developed that identifies times that each group will have access to the PAC facilities. Also developed was a schedule for PAC supervision. A staffing plan was developed that includes: a PAC manager; evening and weekend supervisors; Public Safety student interns; student employees; and WEP students.

Security policies were developed to provide an identification system for authorized users of the facilities. Orientation and training programs were developed to address safety issues, proper footwear, and proper use of facilities and equipment.

Cooperative agreements were reached between Campus Events and Athletics for community groups seeking to use PAC facilities. The agreement sets forth an attitude of cooperation between these departments for fair and equitable use of the facilities.

Office for Student Services

Competitive rental rates were also developed. The Director of Athletics will be the college administrator responsible for managing the facility. Staffing, budgeting, and administering the policies and procedures for the PAC will be an Athletic Department responsibility.

Goal: Collaboratively review successful models and design a College Parent Orientation Program.

Status:

In collaboration with the Campus Center and the MCC Association, Inc., the following actions are included in the plan: a webpage for parents is being developed through the Publications Office of the MCC Association; included on the webpage will be a FAQ feature (frequently asked questions) with a college e-mail address where questions and concerns can be sent; the webpage will provide timely information about events and programs that might interest parents such as athletic events, plays, and guest speakers; regular contributions to the webpage of topics of interest solicited from various MCC departments; links to other MCC webpages; at the New Student Orientations conducted throughout the summer, the parent portion of the program will be enhanced with participation from Academic Services and ETS who will join Student Services in an open question-and-answer session; an inviting social setting with refreshments and snacks will be provided to parents at the summer orientation; and interested parents will be recruited to serve on a parent advisory board.

Goal: Monitor the progress of the college's Civility Committee.

Status:

The Civility Committee completed an extensive survey to the faculty, staff, and/or students on the Brighton and Damon City campuses.

Two Faculty Focus Groups were held in the fall semester at the Brighton campus and one in the spring semester at the Damon campus. Two Student Focus Groups were held at the Brighton campus and one at the Damon campus in fall. These groups were asked to identify and discuss specific recommendations for civility at the college.

Civility Focus Group comments were collected and a list of recommendations for improvement in and out of the classroom were developed for implementation in the 2008-2009 academic year.

Office for Student Services

Goal: Utilize the StrengthsQuest model within each department; pilot StrengthsQuest with student cohorts.

Status:

The StrengthsQuest (SQ) model has been utilized throughout the division by having all professional and civil service staff take the interest inventory. Each department developed SQ charts highlighting individual staff strengths in order to increase awareness amongst staff. A database will be designed for the division in 2008-2009 to connect staff by common strengths and skills. An SQ team was identified to rotate through the division to provide training and to implement staff development exercises utilizing the StrengthsQuest model.

Several Student Services staff development programs were offered which focused on StrengthsQuest exercises as well as four additional SQ programs for individual departments.

StrengthsQuest initiatives will continue to be a priority for the Student Services Staff Development Committee in the upcoming year.

SQ training and evaluation was provided to student cohorts in the Career Center, Office for Students with Disabilities, and the Campus Center. StrengthsQuest training and development programs for students will be expanded to include students living in the residence halls.

Goal: Monitor and promote the professional development of staff in the division.

Status:

Student Services Staff Development Committee offered programs that emphasized the StrengthsQuest model of Positive Psychology. StrengthsQuest programming was encouraged throughout the division to help staff assess and utilize the top five themes of talent and and strength development.

Directors worked with staff to further identify and define professional development needs and to ensure staff attended various professional development opportunities.