

## 2008 STUDENT SUCCESS TEAM RETREAT

September 5, 2008 – 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Levitt Center for University Advancement, The University of Iowa

- I. *Welcome and Overview* 9:30-9:40
1. Overview of Retreat Schedule and Processes
  2. Review Retreat Purposes : (1) to provide a brief report on the activities related to the SST so far, and (2) to generate a proposed agenda for student success, including actions and priorities, for the next 12 to 18 months
  3. General Principles for Our Work Together:
- II. *Update on SST Initiatives Since 2007 Retreat* 9:40 – 10:00
1. Definition of student success
  2. 2007-2008 SST Action Committees and other initiatives (e.g., large classes, Friday classes)
  3. Initiatives and overarching 'themes' from special-emphasis self-study:
    - a. Creating a culture of assessment (e.g., Assessment Council, HLC Assessment Academy)
    - b. Communication, collaboration, and 'silo-busting'
    - c. Faculty engagement
    - d. Positive restlessness
- III. *Creating and Sustaining an Agenda for Student Success at UI* 10:00 – 1:20
- Goal:* To identify, categorize, and establish priorities among specific actions the University should take in the 12-18 months to advance student success.
1. Small-Group Brainstorming and Discussion 10:00-10:40
- Task: Generate a list of actions (e.g., programs, policies, practices) the University should take to advance student success in an area of focus from the University's special emphasis self-study. In their deliberations, each small group will consider the SST's definition of student success.
- Focus One: A positive climate for diversity
- Focus Two: Faculty engagement in undergraduate student success
- Focus Three: A culture of assessment
- Focus Four: Student health and wellness
- Focus Five: Student academic engagement
- Focus Six: Student engagement in educationally-purposeful out-of-class activities
- Questions to consider: What issues, concerns, and/or needs will the proposed actions address, and why do you think so? In what ways do you think they will enhance student success and why? What barriers and facilitating forces might affect implementing this action?
2. Small Group Consensus-Building by Topic 10:40-11:25
- Tasks: Each group will identify a recorder and facilitator. Participants in each focus area will reach consensus on 3-5 proposed actions; each action will be written on a separate piece of newsprint.
3. Large-Group Discussion; Participants Identify Priorities 11:25-12:10
- Tasks: (1) A representative from each focus area will provide a brief (no more than 5-minutes) overview of their proposed actions; (2) Participants will 'spend' post-it stickers on one action in *each* focus area.
- IV. *Lunch Break (Box lunches and beverages will be provided; results of 'post-it' process will be tallied)* 12:10-12:30  
(over)

V. *Next Steps*  
1. Small Group Discussions

12:30 – 1:05

Tasks: Participants in each focus area will discuss priorities “voted” by the entire group and propose one specific action to be taken by the SST and the SST Executive Committee. Each small group will develop a ‘charge’ for an action committee to address the action. Questions to consider include:

- What are the resource (e.g., human, financial) implications of pursuing this action?
- What units and stakeholders are most affected by and/or should be most involved with pursuing action?
- What environmental conditions will facilitate and/or hinder taking this action? How might the facilitating factors be enhanced? How might the barriers be addressed?
- In general, how realistic is this action? Why do you think so? And what advice would you have for pursuing it?
- What are the ‘next steps’ in pursuing this action?

VI. *Large Group Discussion: Next Steps*

1:05 – 1:20

Task: A representative from each focus area will provide a 2-minute overview of their proposed action.

VII. *Thanks and Adjournment*

1:20 – 1:30