

## Student Success Team Executive Committee

**Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 3-4**

C230 PC

Attendees: Emil Rinderspacher, Beth Ingram, Lin Larson, Lon Moeller, Kathy Hall, Sarah Hansen, Elizabeth Whitt, Von Stange, David Grady

Unable to attend: JD Moran, Marcella David, Bill Nelson, Susie Lagos-Lavenz, Nancy Humbles, Helen Jameson

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### 1. Student Success Team Retreat

A work group has met twice to discuss the Retreat goals and format. A subgroup has had an initial phone conversation with Dr. Larry Roper, who will facilitate the Retreat.

Discussion:

- The subgroup proposes that small group discussions at the Retreat align with potential areas of intersection of issues of diversity and student success. The Retreat Planning group met yesterday and suggested these groups:
  - Recruitment
  - Developing cultural competence among UI students (curriculum development/common experience)
  - Developing cultural competence among UI faculty/staff
  - Connecting all students to high impact activities (Research as a high impact activity – how to ensure such opportunities are accessible, welcoming, and inclusive for all students)
  - Connecting all students to high-impact activities (Study Abroad as a high impact activity – how to ensure such opportunities are accessible, welcoming, and inclusive for all students)

**Discussion:** The SST Executive Committee thought all the groups sounded like they would provide meaningful information. The Recruitment group, though, generated quite a bit of discussion about not wanting to step on other efforts that are already underway. The discussion was framed in the context that for all the other groups, SST/MFT might have something unique to contribute to other efforts that are underway. This was not to say that Recruitment is not a key issue, but since there are already some projects underway, there was a feeling that it might not be useful to have a group start to look at this all over again.

The group discussed for some time a work group topic that might generate useful discussion and came to consensus on asking us to replace the “Recruitment” work group with one addressing “health, wellness, and safety of diverse populations” - framing information for this might include things like:

There are a variety of initiatives underway on campus to address health, wellness and safety (e.g., AlcoholEdu, nformed.net, Partnership for Alcohol Safety, alternative activities, etc.). Consider ways that such opportunities and initiatives can best address the health, wellness, and safety concerns of all students, including students from diverse backgrounds.

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### 2. Pick One

The Pick One Committee is looking for additional suggestions on ways to drive students to the Pick One Exploration Tool to officially register their activity. Students, in general, seem to be aware, but are not registering at the pace we would like. The program deadline is October 1<sup>st</sup> (this is compared to last year’s November 1<sup>st</sup>).

**Discussion:** Group recommended looking at incentives for each student who registers (suggestions included itunes download, Bijou ticket, free coffee from the IMU, etc.). In addition, the Committee was pleased that the Pick One group is working toward earlier and better communication between students and organizations. This will continue to develop over time.

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Suggested a specific email be sent to instructors of large first-year courses. At this writing, 1300 students have registered their Pick using the Exploration Tool, and over 1500 students have used the tool (some folks place activities in their "carts" without making a final pick). We will continue to register students throughout the first semester.

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**3. Student Success Team Large Group Meeting**

**Discussion:** Some participants felt the information was more review (those who work in counseling/advising settings). Have also received requests from departments that would like more information or training. The format of the meeting made sense, although it is hard to find a time when faculty can attend. Suggested topics for December:

A student panel discussing how students learn, how we can effectively reach them and communicate with them

An update and discussion with the Chairs of two of the undergraduate strategic initiatives task forces (undergraduate education and internationalization).

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**4. Charging a committee to develop a Common Reading Program**

**Discussion:** Consensus was to form an exploratory committee to look at options apart from One Community, One Book. Kathy noted that discussing with Rhetoric early on is key, before moving forward. An example of the broader options that might be explored would be to work with Rhetoric on getting an author visit associated with a book of their choosing.

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**5. Next meetings:**

- **SST Retreat**, 10/30, 10-5, Black Box Theatre, IMU
  - **SST Executive Committee**, 11/12, 4-5, B5JH
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