

SST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

3:30 – 4:30

JH 111

Meeting called by: Beth Ingram, Sarah Hansen, Liz Whitt

Attendees: Maison Bleam, Marcella David, Helena Dettmer, David Grady, Emil Rinderspacher, Von Stange, Rachel Williams

Absent: Nancy Humbles, Bill Nelson, Carlette Washington-Hoagland, Liz Whitt

AGENDA ITEMS

Topic

On what should we spend our time and money?

- Traditions
 - Convocation: Convocation is scheduled for August 23, 2009 at 4 pm. It is scheduled to take place on the Pentacrest. Students will be led there (hopefully) by their Resident Assistants and/or SST volunteers. After the Convocation, a procession will lead students to the President's Residence Welcome Week event. Beth, Sarah, Liz, Tom Rocklin are working on this, with Kelley Ashby providing coordination.
 - Top things to do at the UI: This poster is being developed by IMU Marketing. Can look at a variety of formats and price points, including downloadables.
- Pick One
 - Need to obtain assessment phase information. Sarah and Liz will meet with committee members this week. Consensus from committee is to continue to fund.
- The Iowa Challenge
 - This initiative is in the final planning/dissemination stages. Large expenditures are not expected; perhaps a giveaway at Orientation, etc.
- One community/One book
 - Committee discussed this initiative. Beth explained to the group that the promised integration into Rhetoric was actually fairly minimal. Evaluation indicates most Rhetoric students did not get exposure to the book. Beth will check on some specifics of budget (e.g., staff time) but consensus was not to fund unless assurances about curriculum integration could be obtained.
- Barriers
 - Alcohol usage: task force
 - Who does what? More efficient communication
 - Getting connected (see pick one)
 - Advising within the major
 - **Notes:** Most of these recommendations are, in fact, being addressed by either Provost's initiatives (Alcohol Task Force) or other SST initiatives (getting connected – Pick One; Advising: Liz is guiding a study of this; Who does what- a second iteration of the early intervention committee is getting started)
- Early Intervention: Early Intervention 2 committee will be chaired by Larry Lockwood and charged with identifying specific implementation steps and budget ramifications.

Strategic Initiatives

- Learning communities
 - How do we involve faculty? Discussion held. A number of points came up during discussion. Rachel pointed out that most faculty have no incentives (e.g., course release; counting this toward service) for their involvement, even though they may see the value. Helena noted that it may become even more difficult to gain faculty involvement with the current economic climate and the ways this will stretch faculty, especially those in smaller departments. Sarah noted that it is important to clearly delineate what "faculty involvement" means – is it having dinner with the community once a semester? Holding a study session? Faculty are more likely to commit to these more limited initiatives than ongoing coordination duties. Group noted that there may be great potential for the professional colleges to sponsor communities (e.g., pre-law).
- Focus on student learning (outcomes assessment): Beth noted that this will be a priority. Providing a framework of support for documenting student learning is a charge of the University Assessment Council.

Large Group Meetings

- Do we keep this format, or do we offer more frequent, shorter programs (like faculty development)? Marcella suggested looking at more frequent, shorter programs as a good option. There are many aspects of SST work that could be valuable for faculty and staff to learn more about. Von suggested that, given the focus on living-learning communities, having a speaker on this topic at the May meeting is a good idea. Sarah will talk with Liz about speaker options.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Hansen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'S' and 'H'.

Sarah Hansen
Student Success Team Coordinator