**University College Exploratory Team Meeting**

*Wednesday, November 17, 2015*

*BPSC 3:15 pm*

*Minutes*

1. Approval of minutes
   1. No changes were noted.
   2. Members have until noon tomorrow, November 19th to send revisions.
2. Discussion of Focus Groups
   1. There was discussion on whether or not the group had agreed to move forward with focus groups.
   2. There was discussion about whether or not focus groups were the appropriate methodology and whether 7-10 students would be sufficient. It was decided that focus groups could help us understand issues from students perspective, but that we must be careful not to try to generalize findings to the entire population.
   3. There was discussion about the selection criteria for focus groups. They are as follows:
      1. Students with at least 30 but no more than 45 hours with a GPA of 2.0 or fewer.
      2. Students in their first semester at SFA who were failing on or more classes at mid-term.

Further questions were asked about the details of the selection process and student populations providing the participants. It was suggested there be more clarity provided. There was discussion of the need for additional focus groups. The following groups were discussed.

* + 1. First-generation students who are not affiliated with the Gen Jacks program.
    2. Undeclared Students
  1. There was some refinement of focus group questions to better focus responses.

1. Discussion of Academic Advising structures and possible proposals
   1. This was a broad-ranging discussion. The common theme was that there is a need to find solutions that increase consistency in academic advising across programs and help make the process better for students.
   2. There was also the consideration that the discussion of academic advising be moved aside for the time being until the structure of the framework of the proposed “transformational learning experiences…in an exceptional setting” (University College or Student Success Center) is determined.

IV. Discussion of the 2010 FYE Committee

a. There was general agreement that the component parts of the proposal were a good place to start in the discussion of the creation of the exceptional setting.

b. The group decided to use the 2010 proposal as a basis of discussion at the next meeting of the group and to decide if any aspects of the proposal should be removed and/or whether there are any additional considerations should be added.

V. Miscellaneous Discussion Items

a. Space allotment for the intended setting

b. Role of the person taking a leadership position in the setting

c. Entities that should be included in the intended setting (financial aid, etc.)

d. Clarification of the Strategic Plan that calls for a University College. The language reads “transformational learning experiences we provide for all students in an exceptional setting.”

1. Discussion of Consultations with Stakeholders
   1. Adam and Dana will report to Academic Deans on Wednesday, December 2nd at 9:15am.
2. Next meeting: December 2 at 3:15pm in the Wyatt Room

**University College Exploratory Team Meeting**

*Wednesday, November 17, 2015*

*BPSC 3:15 pm*

*Agenda*

1. Welcome
2. Approval of minutes
   1. Please tell or email Joy Hammonds any corrections to the notes from last week by noon on tomorrow, November 19th.
3. Discussion of Focus Groups
   1. Students with at least 30 but no more than 45 hours with a GPA of 2.0 or fewer.
   2. Students in their first semester at SFA who were failing on or more classes at mid-term.
4. Discussion of Consultations with Stakeholders
   1. Academic Advisors?
   2. Deans? Opportunity on 9:15 am on December 2nd
5. Next meeting: December 2 at 3:15pm in the Wyatt Room

**Questions for Focus Groups**

Begin by asking each person to go around the room and say their age, hometown and major.

1. What has been the best part of your experience at SFA so far?
2. What has been the most challenging?
3. Have you had any experiences that have made you consider leaving SFA?
4. Has academic advising been mostly helpful or unhelpful to you during your time at SFA?
5. Did you take SFA 101? Was SFA 101 helpful to you?
6. Have you used the Academic Assistant Resource Center (AARC)? Was AARC helpful to you?
7. Did you attend Orientation? Was orientation helpful to you?
8. What else do you want us to know?