meeting agenda

# CORE

**Date:**

November 8, 2023

## In attendance:

Danny Gourley Fischer, Amber Webb, Julie Dietz, Bobbi Kingery, Christopher Mitchell, Christy Kilgore, Christy Hooser, Crystal Brown, Ed Treadwell, Jill Bowers, Jody Stone, Michael Cornebise, Mona Davenport, Tanya Willard, Vicki Phillips, Travis Moody, Ben Rienbolt, Ayse Costello

## Items:

* D/F Midterms - Amber Webb and Danny Gourley Fischer

Webb distributed handouts showing courses sorted by the highest number D/F/NC grades at midterm and showing the percentage of F grades by self-reported ethnicity. Discussion about these disaggregated data and equity gaps ensued.

* GW W8 Progress Reports - Danny Gourley Fischer

Gourley Fischer passed out reports showing response rates and grade distribution for Week 8 Gateway Progress Reports. He had not completed the analysis by race/ethnicity or first-generation status.

* AAC Numbers and Registration status - Danny Gourley Fischer

Gourley Fischer shared check-in data for the reception area of the Academic Advising Center. These data do not account for email and phone sessions conducted by advisors or most virtual advising appointments.

Gourley Fischer noted the inverse relationship between staffing availability and critical time needed by Gateway students around midterms. **Action**: Gourley Fischer to finish compiling the date related to equity for CORE/subcommittees.

For registration status, Gourley Fischer identified Health Education Resource Center (HERC) holds for nearly half of all first-year students not registered. Discussion ensued.

* HERC Holds - Danny Gourley Fischer and Dr. Jill Bowers

Building off the previous agenda item Dr. Bowers recounted reports from the advisors in her college about the prevalence of the HERC hold. Discussion continued about the history of the required trainings, vendor adjustments, contracts, and potential impact of the hold on retention and student outcomes. **Action:** Vicki Phillips agreed to find data that would illuminate any potential equity gap issues regarding holds. Ideas included trying to incorporate the training into Weeks of Welcome, offering a P/F course in lieu of using the vendor, and creating EIU’s own training in D2L.

* “Billy the Panther” AI Chatbot Contract with EdSights - Justin Tierney

Tierney presented engagement statistics, samples of campaigns and responses, and possible options with the expiration of the contract looming. The primary funding source, GEER, is no longer available, and the contract estimates to be ~$20,000. The university must determine if the ROI supports the investment. **Action:** CORE will determine whether to endorse the use of a chatbot, independent of the vendor. Ideas about funding included the Foundation and expanding use of the tool to allow for focus group sampling.

* Sub Committee Updates

Dr. Bowers had several updates for the Childcare Task Force, including peer benchmarking and collaboration with Child Care Resource and Referral. Additionally, local businesses have indicated that a childcare center at EIU would not be seen as a competitor as most current locations cannot meet demand.

## Next Meeting:

December 13, 2023