**Committee on Retention Efforts (CORE)**

**Meeting Minutes**

**August 28, 2019**

1. **Call to Order**

The Committee on Retention Efforts (CORE) was called to order on August 28, 2019, at

3:00 p.m. in the Student Success Center Classroom 1115 in Ninth Street Hall.

**Members present:** Gurkan Akalin; Cindy Boyer; Dagni Bredesen; Mona Davenport; Joe Eichman, recording secretary; Jacquelyn Frank; Jennifer Hedges; Karla Sanders, chair; Jody Stone; Ed Treadwell; Tanya Willard; Melody Wollan; and Jie Zou.

**Members absent:** Shelley James, Alexis Jones, and Josh Norman.

.

1. **Approval of CORE Minutes- April 24, 2019**

Cindy Boyer moved to approve the minutes from the April 24 meeting. Mona Davenport seconded, and the minutes were approved, with Gurkan Akalin abstaining.

1. **Social Belonging Pilot**

Karla Sanders explained this pilot program EIU University Foundations courses are trying this semester. The 21 sections of UF 1111 were divided into three groups – one that will watch a video and participate in a facilitated discussion regarding tackling imposter syndrome for new students. The second group will watch the video and then go through a module on their own, while the third group will act as the control group and only take the pre-survey. The other two groups will take a pre- and post-survey. It should be interesting to see more information about this harder-to-pinpoint retention factor.

1. **Work from Last Year**

This spring will be the semester our freshmen and seniors participate in the NSSE survey, the National Survey of Student Engagement. We will be offering a $200 gift card to increase participation.

**1st Generation Students –** We will continue our outreach efforts to First Generation college students. We will continue to track data and Karla will ask for volunteers for the sub-committee.

**Semester Start Issue –** As a reminder, students who start in the Spring or Summer semesters are retained at lower levels than those who begin in the Fall. A sub-committee will be formed to come up with more outreach strategies and continue the work from last year.

**Pilot for African-American Men –** Mona Davenport updated the group on her department’s new pilot program aimed at increasing the retention rate for African-American men. The pilot includes 18 students (from a pre-semester total of 25). The students are living together on floors with African-American RA’s. Each student will have a mentor. The goal was initially to have all 18 students in the same three courses (ENG 1001, SOC 1838, and EIU 1111), but in the end, due to scheduling conflicts, only two of the students are in all 3 courses. Next year, Mona Davenport is hoping to better realize their schedules. These students will be meeting with Mona Davenport, as well as participating in the Strong Mentoring program. The Office of Inclusion and & Academic Engagement will also hold a summit for men of color alumni as well as a keynote speaker.

**Not Registered Update -** Karla Sanders will continue to run the Not Registered list. Currently, it looks like we will have more students not registered for classes due to holds than this time last year.

**Retention Predictor –** This will be the final year for these particular risk factors. Karla Sanders, working with Enrollment Management, will take a look at the current risk factors for retention and may make changes.

1. **Sub-Committees**

Committee members volunteered for work on the two sub-committees. Joining the 1st Generation Sub-Committee will be Cindy Boyer, Jennifer Hedges, Ed Treadwell, Mona Davenport, and Melody Wollan. Joining the Semester Start Sub-Committee will be Jacquelyn French, Jie Zou, Dagni Bredesen, Tanya Willard, Jody Stone, and Shelley James.

1. **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 3:50.

*~Minutes submitted Joe Eichman, Recording Secretary*