**Committee on Retention Efforts (CORE)**

**Meeting Minutes**

**September 26, 2018**

1. **Call to Order**

The Committee on Retention Efforts (CORE) was called to order on September 26, 2018 at

3:00 p.m. in the Student Success Center Classroom 1117 in Ninth Street Hall.

**Members present:** Gurkan Akalin, Cindy Boyer, Austin Cheney, Mona Davenport, Julie Dietz, Joe Eichman (recording secretary), Shelley James, Alexis Jones, Katie Lewandowski, Josh Norman, Karla Sanders, chair, Jody Stone, and Tanya Willard.

**Members absent:** Jeanne Lord, Vicki Phillips, Ed Treadwell, and Jie Zou.

1. **Approval of CORE Minutes-September 12, 2018**

Jody Stone motioned to approve the minutes with Mona Davenport offering a second. The minutes were approved with Austin Cheney and Alexis Jones abstaining.

1. **Not Registered by Certain Dates**

Karla Sanders briefly discussed the Not Registered by Certain Dates data. Overall, the FA18 data is pretty good. Over 700 of 956 students who hadn’t registered for fall classes in the summer returned to EIU.

1. **FA17-FA18 Retention Data, Continued**

The Committee continued looking at the Retention Data. Institutional Research released their retention findings, and came up with the same rate that Karla Sanders did: 70.32%, which is now the official FA17-18 rate for the University. In terms of risk factors, the incoming class of 2022 looks better than the previous year, when looking at retention risk factors. There is, though, a higher percentage of students with the Need Gap >$7000. This data includes new Freshmen who started either in the Summer or Fall sessions. The average GPA for the incoming class has risen to 3.16. Josh Norman and Julie Dietz both reported that the new students seem to bring a new energy, and are more engaged than the previous class. The number of standard admits is up, and fewer are coming in as Undecided in their major. So now the goal is to keep these students at EIU.

The committee continued its discussion of increasing local work-study or student employment to help bridge the need gap.

1. **Committee Priorities**

* Student Employment increase – find data to make our case
* FAFSA Training
* Life Center (now in HERC)
* Survey/Focus Group on at-risk students who completed.

1. **Newsletter**

* Loads of Data for a Retention Story
* This year’s class snapshot
* AIM High & Retention – Josh Norman will provide quotes
* Updates to Early Alert System – Julie Dietz and Shelley James will provide quotes.

1. **Member Updates**

In future meetings, Karla Sanders will ask members to provide updates on things being done around campus to improve retention.

1. **Adjourn**

At the Oct. 10 meeting, we will use the data to set the priorities. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

*~Minutes submitted Joe Eichman, Recording Secretary*