

Pathways Steering Committee
August 2, 2017 – 10 to 11:30 am
32-113 & Zoom

Attending: Tania Sheldahl, Dean Holbrook, Joanne Oellers, Molly Beauchman, Jodi Showler, Patti Schlosberg, Alice Burroughs, Ron Liss, Jill Fitzgerald, Laura Bloomenstein, Scott Farnsworth, Patrick Burns, Justin Brereton, Karen Jones, Karen Leja

Two Year Goals

Committee reviewed the year two goals for this committee:

1. Align university pathways/partnerships
2. Align high school to YC pathways
3. Develop Mandatory First Year Experience –
 1. redo new student orientation
 2. develop success course-one and three credit option
 3. Implement success coach concept - redefine academic advising
4. CRM and student tracking - engagement from admission to first day of class
 1. Develop front end career exploration mechanisms - onboarding of new students
 2. Identify academic and non academic benchmarks
5. Align YC Gen Ed block with Pathways

Dr. Liss suggested metrics are needed to confirm if Pathways makes a difference in student completions. Committee agreed that metrics needs to be added as the top goal. There is a need to look at completers from last year, number of credits students take; then keep data as we move forward with Pathways. Karen Jones agreed to lead this effort and bring in other staff, i.e. Institutional Research staff, to work on data collection. Dr. Liss suggested the current key performance indicators of YC may be a good starting point.

Tania asked Dr. Liss to comment on his vision for First Year Experience. He said he likes to think of it as First Year Experiences – a group of activities, classes, events that help the student succeed. The committee will need to determine if FYE is for all students or a specific cohort. FYE could encompass New Student Orientation, FYE course, student activities/clubs. The needs of each student are different: recent high school graduate, mid-life student retraining, transfer student, or general community member just taking classes. As an example, Dr. Liss discussed a college that offered a 16-week FYE course, an 8-week FYE course, a late start 14-week course. That college found the first 8-week course to be most successful. FYE courses can be one credit for students that only need a little help. A more in-depth FYE 3 credit course could be developed for students needing extra help. It was decided Barb Waak, Joanne Oellers, Scott Farnsworth and a Student Development Advisor would lead the group reviewing the First Year Experiences. It is expected the FYE course(s) should be ready for Fall 2018. A system will need to be put in place in Banner to confirm student takes FYE. There is a need to look at who teaches FYE courses; does the teacher need a Master's degree; review HLC criteria for teaching this type of course. Cohort size will determine number of sections, schedule, rooms, and number of instructors needed. It was suggested YC may want to call FYE "College First Experiences."

The Pathways Committee needs to look at aligning the Gen Ed block with Pathways and aligning university pathways. An initial conversation on this could start at Convocation. Laura and Jill will manage this sub-group and bring in needed help from ATF representatives, Deans, other staff. Looking at Gen Ed block, it was suggested to look at most flexibility for a program. Any Gen Ed changes would need to be done by Oct. 29 for 2018.

Tania agreed to review the CRM and student tracking and identify academic and non-academic benchmarks.

Next meeting: August 30, 2017 - 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by,
Karen Leja