



Data Evaluation Subcommittee

Minutes for Wednesday, September 9, 2020

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

ConferZoom Meeting

Meeting Participants

Committee Members Present

Beth Allan-Bentley, Bert Bitanga, Dustin Culhan, Emila Rahimic, Jessica Enders, Cathy Levitt, Daniel Martinez (Leadership Co-Chair), Kurt Spurgin, Nicole Tortoris

Committee Members Not Present

Annebelle Nery, Sheri Willis, Student Representative TBD

Guest(s)

Andrew Kretz and Gloria Issa - Institutional Research Office Staff Members

Recorder

Steve McCrary

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

- Meeting called to order at 2:01 pm.

1.1 Introductions

- Each committee member and guest introduced themselves, what department they are working in and how long they have been with COD.

2. Action Items

2.1 Approval of Agenda

- Agenda as presented.

2.2 Selection of Faculty Co-Chair

- Dr. Martinez called for nominations from members present for a faculty co-chair. Kurt Spurgin self-nominated, was also nominated by Bert Bitanga, and was approved unanimously. Congratulations Kurt!

2.3 Recommendation for handling Early Withdrawal (EW) grades in spring 2020

- Dr. Martinez presented an Excel file and reviewed the Success Rate chart for 2015-16 to 2019-20. In spring 2020, students were allowed to request an EW due to Covid-19 pandemic. COD has not given an “Excused Withdrawal” (EW) in the five years before spring 2020, but EWs accounted for 14% of all grades in that semester. He pointed out that the success rate calculations do not take EWs into account.
 - With EWs not included in the success calculation, success in 2019-20 was 4.5% higher than 2018-19 (75.6% and 70.1%, respectively), an unprecedented increase.
 - The standard deviation for 2019-20 was 358% higher than 2018-19; the difference between 2017-18 and 2018-19 was 0.
 - Comparing spring 2020 to spring 2019:
 - W’s declined by 10.
 - F’s declined by 3%.
 - A’s increased by 5%.
 - It would increase the aspirational Institution Set Standard (ISS) by 4.3%, to 75.7%.
 - For planning purposes, these changes would be difficult to incorporate.
- He also showed the success rate if EWs were treated like Ws.
 - Success in 2019-20 would be 1.3% higher, comparable to the increase between 2015-16 and 2016-17.
 - The standard deviation for 2019-20 would be 38% higher than 2018-19.
 - It would increase the aspirational ISS by 0.4%, to 71.8%.
- As this is a faculty concern, discussion followed on the best way to handle success rate calculations.
- Item 2.4 on the agenda was the possibility of modifying how college goals are established and it was recommended we discuss that before proceeding with any final decision about how to report success rates with consideration of the EW grades.

2.4 First Reading

- Revision of process to establish Institution Set Standards (ISS) recommended by the Data Evaluation Subcommittee to COD College Planning Council (CPC), first reading 20201023 (see related handout).

- Window for second reading at CPC was missed last year.
- Subcommittee members approved through SurveyMonkey.
- After considerable discussion about modifying how the college goals are established, it was recommended to not modify that process at this time, but to reconsider it on an annual basis as the effects of EWs impact the college.
- When reporting the data, it was suggested that EWs would be included in the success calculation with a clear caveat about the inclusion of the EW grades as a way to “deal with the current real life situation.”

3. Information/Discussion Items

- Tabled to next meeting

4. Good of the Order

- Dr. Martinez’s snacks, normally provided during in-person meetings, are missed. He pledged to make all in his variety of snacks for the next in-person meeting, whenever that may be!

5. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 2:58 pm

Next Meeting

Wednesday, October 14, 2020

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

ConferZoom