

General Education Council
Minutes
October 26, 2015

Members Present: Jane Kinney, Mark Smith, Jeremy Tost, Aubrey Fowler, Tod Leavitt, Byron Brown, Kammi Painter, Lai Orenduff

Members Absent: Teri Gayle Taylor

Guest: Pat Miller

- Approval of Minutes
- Pat Miller talked about her campaigns to help recruit and retain students. Her special focus is on the Core classes. Using the Spectator, she has included ads that pinpoint first year advising, first year programs, and the student Success Center. Her saying is: Core Strength equals major success. Build your Core. Find your fit. She has received \$22,000 in funding from the Provost's Office for the Core Campaign. In addition to this, Pat has received additional monies from the Provost Office for the Mad Lab Project which is in conjunction with the Student Success Center. Factor important to her Core campaigns include:
 - 1.) Tracking of average SOI responses for CORE courses
 - 2.) Data that suggest students who complete the CORE courses at VSU do better in their majors
 - 3.) Generate a list of reasons students should take Core courses at VSU
- Keith Warburg: re-packaging Area designations. Keith has been working on a new web page designed to interest the students in the Core classes. A suggestion to rename the different Areas was discussed. Listing the Areas by only the letter, like Area A, etc., is neither informative nor interesting. Keith has designed a user-friendly site where the students can click on the different areas and see the courses that would fulfill the requirements of that Area. By including an additional word or phrase that encapsulates the learning objectives of that Area, the student would know why he/she taking that course.
 1. Strategic Action Steps
 - a. student recruitment/retention in core curriculum courses: Dual Enrollment
 - b. student success by intervening more quickly in students' selection of a major and by formally evaluating their progress toward their majors early in their academic careers: Pathways
 - c. increase and enhance the relevance and importance of general education courses
- New Business:
Guidelines for Freshman Seminar (Community Learning) Proposals for Area B