

Professional Council Meeting 03/11/2016

In Attendance: Cherie Dolehanty, Patrick Chimenti, Jamie Rippey, Nichole Mann, Mary Mahank, Michael Scott, May Moore, Tracy Amyx, Carrie Reisner, Larry Scott, Liz Ferris

The meeting began with Carrie Reisner sharing information about the AASCU grant-funded “Re-Imagining the First Year” program. Through the grant, AASCU (American Association of State Colleges and Universities) is providing support for participating institutions to meet and discuss programs, strategies and tools to increase retention rates and success for first year students. IUE is participating and there’s a “campus innovation team” working on strategies in four areas: institutional intentionality, curriculum, faculty and students. This is a three year commitment.

May Moore shared information about the focus group meeting with Andrew Lenhardt, regarding the draft of the new evaluation form for professional staff. She said that the group offered suggestions for a few revisions. Generally those in the focus group liked the idea that the conversations would happen more than once a year (quarterly), but expressed concern about the time commitment for some of the staff who supervise large numbers of employees. Andrew will meet with two other groups for feedback about the form as well. It was noted that the new forms can be tailored to actual job responsibilities which is viewed as an improvement on the “cookie cutter” format of the current forms. May reported that the focus group generally felt that it will be a good tool if it’s used as it’s designed.

Cherie Dolehanty reminded the group that PC needs to elect leadership positions in April, and to send any nominations to the Nominating Committee: Teresa Price, Patrick Chimenti and Carrie Reisner. Remember that only active members may vote, and in order to be an active member, a PC member must have attended one PC meeting over the course of the year.

Larry Scott announced a program he’s calling a Living and Learning Roundtable, set for March 25th from 1 – 3 in the Community Room. He’s still finishing up details for the event, but it will include discussions from students who’ve developed coping skills for working through college despite identified disabilities. He’s looking for volunteers to demonstrate that morning what it’s like to perform basic tasks as student with a disability (one example might be navigating buildings in a wheelchair). Please contact Larry if you are interested in participating.

Pat Chimenti announced the drug abuse prevention program, “Operation Street Smart,” taking place April 6 from 12 – 4 pm. Registration is required but it is open to anyone. He distributed flyers about the event as well. It’s designed to help participants recognize the signs of involvement with drugs and alcohol (current lingo and paraphernalia, behaviors, etc.) and provide information about how local law enforcement agencies are responding to situations.

Pat also described an electronic health newsletter that is being distributed to students called “Student Health 101,” sponsored by the IU East School of Nursing and Office of the Dean of Students. We can access the current newsletter and subscribe to future issues at: <http://readsh101.com/iue.html>

Jamie Rippey announced an event targeted to first generation college students, to gauge interest in the mentoring program she’s developed. She has strong participation from first-gen faculty mentors and

now they are looking for students who want to participate in a pilot program. It's set for March 29th, 12:00 – 1:30 pm. External Affairs is sending the invitation out to students, but please encourage any first generation students to attend.

Michael Scott reminded everyone of the career events coming up soon:

- Professional Clothing Warehouse on March 23rd and 24th in Graf. He invited PC members to stop in, even just for a few minutes, to help students select (free!) professional clothing. UCOL staff have been really pleased with the quality of the donations this year.
- 4 Colleges Career Fair, March 29th: <http://wcareachamber.org/events/908/>

Meeting adjourned before Noon.