First Generation Planning Meeting Notes

June 28, 2016

Members present: Rick Edgington, Pam Stinson, Shannon Cunningham, Ed Vineyard, Dee Cooper, Scott Haywood, Sandy Jensen, Rae Ann Kruse, Tim Kruse, Renee Lee, Paula Lewis, Kathleen Otto, Shila Rakey, Alicia Sharp, Eugene Smith

Rae Ann Kruse welcomed the group and thanked Rick Edgington for sharing the Retention Committee members.

Kathleen Otto presented information on NOC first generation demographics from Fall 2015 students with less than 30 hours. The parameters for first generation were established by the NOC online application, OK community college guidelines, and granting agencies. International students were not included in the data because they do not complete the online application. The group noted there is a higher percentage of first generation students in our Native American population.

**Action: Initiatives surrounding our NASNTI grant application may address higher percentages.**

Rick and Otto answered a question, “How do advisors know students are G1?”.

**Action: List will be run by campus and distributed.**

Pam Stinson connected the first generation project to NOC’s strategic goals—specifically highlighting Goal 1A, Goal 1B, and Goal 2.

Eugene Smith reviewed a presentation he will give to faculty and staff regarding national and state first generation information.

Rae Ann Kruse described student support programs at OSU for first generational students and OU for veterans. She also described living and learning communities at OSU for Ag and Human Science students. Scott Haywood suggested we take a dorm and start a similar program. Additional comments were made about also serving commuter students.

Rick Edgington said that lists of first time students for Fall 2016 have been printed and distributed. Renee Lee is calling every student to make sure financial aid and other arrangements are in place. Otto recommended a checklist for all parents. Pam said that Stillwater has a checklist for students and parents.

**Action: Share checklist and make it available to first gen students and parents of first gen students.**

Otto recommended we connect with students before they get here. There was discussion about access to high school students at the local level.

Renee Lee commented that not all faculty are using the early alert system. Additional discussion indicated that the early alert system notifies Renee and the academic advisor. If the advisor puts a note in the comments the response goes back to the faculty.

Scott Haywood recommended an enrollment day for first gen students.

**Action: Have break-out session during Freshman Fridays.**

Shannon Cunningham brought up serving students through Freshman Orientation and Saturday Orientation. Freshmen Orientation is required on all degree sheets, but some students don’t take the course until their sophomore year.

**Action: Run reports by campus to identify students with 0 hours (first-time freshmen) who haven’t enrolled in Freshmen Orientation. Students will be contacted to enroll.**

Dee Cooper discussed that first generation students often don’t know the resources available—financial aid, book loans, and textbooks available in the library. Shila Rakey said the Stillwater Freshmen Orientation classes tour the OSU library and show the students the room where textbooks are available. Sandy Jensen pointed out that not all books are available for all classes on every campus.

**Action: Identify what books are available and where so advisors and Freshmen Orientation classes can share the information with students.**