

MINUTES

UMR Retention Committee Minutes

September 7, 2006

8:15-9:15 AM

Members Present

Dana Barnard, Harvest L. Collier, Stephanie Fitch, Amy Gillman, Matt Goodwin, Mary Ellen Kirgan, Gearoid MacSithigh, F. Scott Miller, Emily Petersen, Stephen Raper, Laura Stoll

Members Not Present

Meg Brady, Carl Burns, Gregory Gelles, Jay Goff, Kristi Schulte, Lynn Stichnote, Steve Watkins, Robert Whites

Approval of Minutes

The committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the 8/24/06 meeting with one minor revision.

Old Business

A. Probationary/Deficient Students Enrolled FS2006

The committee reviewed the following report.

**University of Missouri-Rolla
Academic Probation/Deficiency Report
SP2006-FS2006**

Negative Action-End of SP2006	Enrolled FS2006
493 Students total	371 Students Total
85% Male 15% Female	84% Male 16% Female
22% (111) Freshmen 25% (124) Sophomores 24% (117) Juniors 29% (141) Seniors	13% (51) Freshmen 23% (86) Sophomore 29% (103) Junior 35% (131) Senior
37% (183)- Placed on Scholastic Probation 5% (23)-Continued Probation 45% (224)- Scholastic Deficiency 13% (64)-Dropped-Scholastic Deficiency	41% (153)-Placed on Scholastic Probation 5% (19)-Continued Probation 47% (174)- Scholastic Deficiency 7% (25)-Dropped-Scholastic Deficiency

Dr. Collier referenced an article provided by Dr. Schonberg concerning academic dishonesty in engineering disciplines. The committee asked how many students on probation are now in good academic standing. What are the success stories?

B. 2006/07 Retention Committee Action Items

- **Academic Dishonesty**

The committee suggested that many students do not understand how their actions can be interpreted as cheating.

Dr. Collier has established some guidelines for faculty regarding informal dispositions of academic dishonesty issues. How can instructors communicate "What is academic dishonesty? He will start the process of informing the campus and raising awareness about academic dishonesty- How do we define it, How do we address it?

The Retention Committee will continue to discuss the issue and consider the possible development of a subcommittee.

- **Retention Committee Annual Report**

The committee will present the report to the Provost (and possibly the Chancellor) at a future meeting (date to be determined).

- **Probationary/Deficient Students**

The committee asked if there a plan to continue the pilot program to assist students. Stephanie Fitch has a group of students who are interested. They are participating in a similar program through Counseling and Academic Support Programs (Patti Fleck in the Counseling Center is working with approximately 8 students this semester.)

Dr. Collier indicated he would like to develop a formal process for addressing the issue. The committee will continue the discussion at future meetings.

- **Academic Advising**

The committee discussed the need to improve the academic advising program by formalizing advising practices campus-wide. The committee will continue discussions to identify the specific needs related to the campus-wide coordination of advising, and how to assist students on academic probation.

- **The Second Year Experience**

Dr. Collier distributed a proposed list of action items for beginning the development of a second year experience program at UMR. (See discussion items below.)

- **Academic Alert-Instructor Drop Policy**

Due to time constraints, this topic will be addressed at a future meeting.

New Business

A. Development of a Second-Year-Experience Program

Dr. Collier distributed a proposed list of action items for beginning the development of a second year experience program at UMR. He asked the Retention Committee to consider these items and to discuss arriving at a list of needs to help UMR sophomores be successful and complete their degrees.

Discussions related to the handout:

- What are the needs of our second year students?
- What best practices need to be in place to serve sophomores at UMR?

Top issues expressed by UMR students include:

1. Academic success
2. Resources to support personal and professional development
3. Stronger correlation of academic study with the real world
4. Building relationships and networking

Announcements

A. UMR Academic Advising Conference: Sept. 11, 2006- UMR Academic Alert System-12:00-1:30 PM, Havener Center

B. Using the Second Year Experience to Enhance Student Success-Web Conference-September 20, 2006, 1:00-2:30 PM, Location TBD

The meeting was adjourned.