

GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
April 10, 2014
Minutes

Attending: Gail Fernandez, Ann Brown, Denise Budd, Joshua Guttman, Takvor Mutafoğlu, Tracy Saltwick, Harriet Teredomos, Barbara Walcott

1. Meeting started at 12:30.
2. February Minutes accepted: 7 – 0 – 0
March Minutes accepted: 7 – 0 – 0
3. General Assessment Project Update:
 - a. We are still collecting artifacts.
 - b. We would like all departments to participate
4. General Education Transfer Experience Report: presented by Tonia McKoy, Director of Institutional Research
Some of the highlights presented and discussed:

Background:

- The data is based on students who leave here and transfer to a 4 year institute.
- We report student data to the state of NJ, but we do not get information back (lack of money in the state)
- We rely on surveys to gather information. This information comes from students 1 year after they graduate.
- In fall 2013, there were a lot of questions about the student transfer experience. In the end, a 10 question survey was created. It was difficult to create the survey because we needed to ask questions when we didn't know the student experience ourselves. Therefore, we created open-ended questions.
- Surveys were sent to 2012 – 2013 graduates. We identified students by sending a file to the National Student Clearinghouse. They have a "student tracker" system. 2,345 students transferred to 4 year institutes. This number did not include students without a 2 year degree. (We can replicate this survey for students who didn't graduate, but transferred.)
- We used an online survey. These surveys are known to have low response rates. In addition, we used a Bergen email address so we know that we missed a lot of students.
- This is the first time doing this type of survey, so this survey is like a pilot. It is a starting point.
- We didn't ask which Rutgers campus students transferred to.

Survey Results

- There is a large concentration of General Degrees. One possibility is that it is easier for students to complete a general degree than one in a specific area.
- Is there a good enough alignment so that all courses transfer (Rutgers/Ramapo College)
- Some institutes want students to retake courses in their majors.
- We need to look at which courses students need to repeat.
- Gen Ed courses: majority of students don't need to retake them.
- This survey will be repeated in fall 2014.

5. Meeting adjourned at 1:25.

Submitted by Gail Fernandez