Learning Commons Advisory Board Meeting
Thursday, December 15, 2016 in iTeach Lab

<u>Attended:</u> Ibrahim Rosic, Timothy Thomas, John Swistak, Aleksey Omelko, Donald Kelly, Tracy Coulson, Carlos Pulquerio, Kristen Raab, Breanne Rathbun, Steffani DiPierro and Rachel Golden

<u>Not able to attend:</u> David Nackley and Robert Huyck

Ibrahim's concerns (before beginning of meeting)

Had meeting with Maryrose…

- 35% of student population will be using Learning Commons in a year or two. (Over 2,000 students roughly.)
- Students haven't been signing in to use the computers
- Impossible to get that number from tutoring and coaching
- We need to come up with a way to track students using open lab (Been brainstorming with Tamara)
- Possibly have signs that say open computer lab and one that says study room?
- We have 3 main entrances in the Learning Commons
    - Impossible to monitor every student
- Subtract students who are tutored from those using computer lab and open area
    - Use m number
- Swipe in to get into Commons and then sign in on computer? (Option)
- Lock two doors, leave one open and have student worker guard the door? Fastest to implement. (Option)
- Have a system similar to the library? (Option)
- We have space here in the Learning Commons to accommodate 35%
    - Now…how do we record it?

Overview with Ibrahim

- Most interesting semester
- We were in the Library in beginning of the fall semester. Worst possible time we ever had.
- There were lots of complaints
- Computers did not cooperate. Every day we had an issue
- No privacy (complaints from students)
- Not enough tutors
- Math lab was located outside the library where the cubbies were on the second floor
    - Students were signing in for math lab by hand

- Tutors were tutoring everywhere in the library
- Learning Commons officially moved in on October 10th. We lost students due to transition.
- Last of furniture arrived in early November right before ribbon cutting
- IT is right next door. They come right away to help or replace things
- Finally…we are fully completed!

Writing Lab with Kristen

- Reduced tutoring because of library
- Utica and Rome= 1,245 hours
- Required tutoring for English classes, HS 101 and MT 230
- Goal is to expand mandatory tutoring for different classes
- Cheryl Plescia has received the best grades yet since mandatory tutoring.

Math Lab with Bre

- 285 hours in Utica
- 172 ½ hours in Rome
- 2,354 hours in math lab in Utica
- Reviews sessions end of this semester were well attended
- Rome campus is challenging
    - All tutors are in one single room (size of iTeach lab)
    - After remodel is done this should change
    - South wing should be completed before spring semester so we can expand

Completion Coaching with Rachel

- 3 Completion Coaches… Salina Billins, Maimun Khan and Rachel Golden
- Holistic approach to help students succeed
- 1st semester completed
- Gateway Students
    - 3 Gateway Courses this past Fall 2016 semester
    - 5 more Gateway courses added for Spring 2017 semester
    - 11 crn's they are responsible for instead of current alphabetical order for 3 coaches
- New software= Starfish
    - Teachers are flagging students and Coaches reach out to those students
    - Coaches have intake forms to learn about students
        - Questions to get the big picture
    - Connect students to on campus resources and off campus resources as well
        - Katrina Engell with Mohawk Valley Community Actions C3 Program
- Coach student their entire time attending MVCC
- Make sure students know about clubs and organizations here on campus

- 600 students started this semester
- Next semester coaches will concentrate on flagged students and less on general outreach
- 250 flags this semester
    - Most were resolved by communicating with students
- Ibrahim will be hiring two additional coaches
- The goal is to really expand coaching
- Jim Lynch is at Broome Community College Today for a Starfish meeting
- Some students would have done well without coaches and those that did not have them could have really benefited from a coach
- Concentrate only on flagged students next semester
- Predictive Analytics will hopefully be released by Fall 2017
    - Goal is to help students in need
- Piloting right now. Still have hiccups. Coaches meeting once a week with Norma Chrisman.
- Coaching will not be as helpful without Predictive Analytics

PGP Progress with Ibrahim

- Evaluators came end of October
    - Received report this past Tuesday the 13th
        - Everything looked phenomenal!
    - Coaches should attend conference or go to other institute that uses Coaches
    - Single sign on is another concern
        - Too confusing, major issue
        - Maryrose will address with president
- Finishing final report for the government. Pretty much finished year one goals minus date of Learning Commons launch. Didn't open in August as originally planned.
- Digital Toolkits with Jocelyn
    - See what worked and what didn't

Hiring Peer Tutors

- Didn't increase tutoring budget at all
- Need to hire more peer tutors
- Perkins. Franca hasn't heard anything yet
    - $8,000 grant we can receive with Perkins
- Everyone here at board meeting today…help us identify great peer tutors!
- They can even work just a couple hours a week
- We really need tutors in both A+P and Business courses
- Minimum wage goes up next semester
- Ask your department and encourage faculty to refer students to us.
- This past semester we changed peer tutors and student workers to work study. Helped us save money!

Questions, comments or concerns

- *Tracy Coulson*: Students had no idea about all the chaos taking place when they were in the library. Students didn't sense it. They felt comfortable.