Learning Commons Advisory Board Meeting

May 9th 10:00-11:00am iTeach Lab

Attended: **:** Ibrahim Rosic, Tim Thomas, John Swistak, Jim Roberts, Donald Kelly, Tracy Coulson, Rachel Golden, Kristen Raab, Breanna Rathbun, Alison Doughtie and Steffani DiPierro

Missing: David Nackley, Aleksey Omelko, Robert Huyck and Carlos Pulquerio

Ibrahim

- This year was kind of a challenge
    - Started in the Library and moved to the Commons in October
    - Fall semester was a mess
    - Spring semester started off nicely
        - Hours however are significantly down
    - Spring hours
        - Open at 7:30 am and close at 8:00pm
    - Added new tutors, programs and coaches
        - However, hours are not where they are supposed to be
        - Significant decrease with one-on-one tutoring compared to last spring
        - Slight increase in use of Rome Learning Commons facility

- Suggestions for improvement?
    - Maybe some faculty mandate tutoring?

- Liz Cooley made it mandatory for students in the Nursing program
    - Students had to attend one session a week
    - Success rate of predictor after 2 months' time went up 9%

- We need some suggestions! Students aren't doing well.
- They should be coming on a regular basis.
- Students come last minute-no impact. Can't accomplish anything from that

- This semester we had the largest numbers of no shows.
    - Students schedule but don't show.
    - 35 students were blocked out from system and had to visit Ibrahim to get unblocked.
    - 7 students were repeat offenders.
    - One student did it again in two weeks' time

- Worst semester for no show
- Coaches also receive a lot of no shows

Kristen

- 1,000 one on one tutoring hours
- Certain professors mandate tutoring
  - Examples: Jim Roberts, Mike Faitell and Cheryl Plescia
- Did some APA presentations (classroom visits)
- MLA workshops (one student came)

Breanne

- 2,500 hours open
- 380 one-on-one hours
- 267 hours or so in Rome
  - Between open and one-on-one tutoring
- Tutor hours in math lab were 8:00am-8:00pm
  - 6:00pm-8:00pm got really empty towards end of the day
  - Open 4:00pm-7:00pm on Fridays
  - Open on Saturday and Sundays as well.
- 14 review sessions this semester for math finals
- It's been hit or miss with it being busy in the lab this semester

Rachel

- Fall semester breakdown was alphabetical this semester it was broken-down by CRN
  - 11 crns per coach (including online)
- August 1st begins Starfish throughout entire campus
- Come fall coaches will focus on students who are coming in with a certain high school gpa
- More frequent class visits for coaches
- Workshops in this upcoming fall semester
- We need a reason for students to check email!
  - Maybe have an intake form they need to open sent to email
  - Or link to schedule an apt in their email
  - Encourage students to go on Outlook calendar
- All faculty will now have access
- Encourage students to access their own progress
- Coaches are looking to start the ***To do feature***

- Gives students things to do. Reach their goals and take accountability
- Issue with duplication of services
  - Instead of flag going to completion coach as well it will just go to the other department that it needs to

Ibrahim

- Brittnee Mexico will coach student athletes
- Fall semester we will have a full team of coaches
- Any student at risk will receive assistance
- There will be a pilot program in the fall
  - 10 will be chose to participate
  - Paul Katchmar will work over the summer to see what needs to be done
- 2 weeks ago sent out email
  - Happy to find out a lot of faculty want to use Starfish for their summer courses
- Faculty can access it now
  - This is good to practice for the launch in the fall semester
- Looking to assign coaches by major without duplication
  - But, general studies has over 1,000 students. How do we break that down for coaches?

Jocelyn

- Are there ever any writing tutors ever on standby?
  - Wouldn't take appointments, just take walk ins?

Kristen

- Some students need half hour appointment, some students need more than a half hour or some students can be done in 10 to 15 minutes.
- A lot of students come in just to get sheet signed for class
- It's a gray area… how long the student stays and what they do during session.

Tim

- What is different now about the Learning Commons compared to before?

Ibrahim

- The location

Tim

- What courses use the Learning Commons the most?

Ibrahim

- A & P it used to be

Don

- Quality of the tutor
- Another way of looking at the information
- Still recruiting tutors
  - Who do we pass it off too?

Tim

- Try Anatomy lectures in this building

Ibrahim

- Lost 35% of developmental students
  - Do they not want to walk here to the IT building from the AB building?

Jim

- From what he's seen that could be a big part of it

Rachel

- Coaches would have students schedule tutoring sessions while the student is in their office
  - Maybe student felt compelled to go but then they didn't show up

Ibrahim

- What could be a consequence?
  - Currently do the block after 3 misses
- If there is no consequence they will keep doing it!

Rachel

- Students feel the only consequence is their grade
  - What would another consequence be that would impact the student?

Ibrahim

- Never had repeat offenders before this semester

Tracy

- Her department gets no shows as well
  - They do reminder calls
  - Should maybe start reminder texts as well
    - Like doctors' offices do
  - Make sure student has phone that can receive texts

Ibrahim

- Will check with Tamara if we can work with the IT department to come up with an idea like this
- Most students have email on their phone
  - Maybe half hour before the apt we send reminder email or text?

Tracy, Kristen and Steffani

- Numbers are not always updated in system

Tracy

- In SIRS, student can change their phone numbers
  - Not their address though

Jocelyn

- Digital Tool Kit
  - Making 18 digital tool kits thanks to the Title III grant
  - It is housed in Blackboard
    - Easy for instructors to transfer their material over
  - Active learning activities
  - Going well so far
  - Only instructors can see tool kit material
    - But there are areas that students are able to see for assistance
  - End of summer 11 kits will be created
  - Fall semester 4 more kits will be created
    - Making 15 out of 18 completed

- 3 kits are currently up in the air
  - Courses may not exist (math courses)
  - Supposed to be done by 2020
  - We will pay adjuncts to get exposed to toolkits
    - Full timers can talk with adjuncts about the toolkits
    - Adjuncts will be a good target audience
  - Workshops will be before fall semester starts

Don

- Is there a way to look at toolkits?
  - For approaches and techniques

Jocelyn

- Once its piloted and designed Jocelyn can access it or get a hold of Norma
- List is available on the website
- All toolkits have the same template
- Syllabus is universally designed by Jocelyn by a screen reader
- Teacher focuses on specific topics
- Anyone that wants to see it just email Jocelyn
- How to access it
  - Log on to MVCC site
  - Type in Title III in search engine
  - Click on Title III link
  - Go under Personnel

Tim

- Summer Jump Start Program "Boot Camp"
  - One cohort
  - Carefully selected
    - Those interested will take a placement test
  - For individuals who just placed into developmental
    - Write below the cut off
  - 3 weeks of intensive intervention by Kristen and Breanne
    - What they struggled on the test they will be getting assistance with
    - After 3 weeks they will test again
  - For 7 weeks they will take 3 courses and finish on September 1st
    - Rolls them right into the fall semester which begins on September 6th

- o Tie all these students with Completion Coaches
- o This will be the test run this summer
  - ▪ Only 20 students in this boot camp
- o Look at all the test results and choose students right on the bubble

Ibrahim

- 10 years ago we ran a similar program
  - o Not as intense
  - o It was two times a week
  - o Students ended up testing out 100%
- Some students don't always take the placement tests seriously

Rachel

- Look into making ED100 A term mandatory to go to the Learning Commons
  - o Have to see a tutor
  - o This will get new students familiar with the commons

Tim

- Good to see a lot of people held office hours this past semester in the Learning Commons