

# College Data Team- DRAFT

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September 26, 2012 2:00pm- 4:00pm

CJI Room 137

## ➤ Welcome- **Laura Blasi**

- In Attendance: Alys Arceneaux, Leonard Bass, Nicholas Bekas, Laura Blasi, Mike Bosley, Lucy Boudet, Roberta Carew, Kristeen Christian, Daryl Davis, Michelle Foster, Stacey Johnson, Jessica King, Michele McArdle, Cathy Penfold Navarro, Karen Reilly, Joyce Romano, Larry Rosen, David Sutton, Russell Takashima

## ➤ Data on Grade Distribution Requested for the Calendar and Scheduling Committee – **Joyce Romano**

- Laura gave a brief background of the Grade Distribution tool which allows faculty to compare their grade distributions to other sections.
- The tool is a pilot and has not been widely advertised to faculty.
- Mike Bosley tried to use the tool and had difficulties navigating it.
- Joyce gave a background of the Calendar and Scheduling Committee and explained that the committee developed 2 reports to answer the question, “how does the calendar impact student learning?” Joyce shared the data from one of those reports which is a grade distribution for each term since 2003. She stated that she wanted the Data Team to be aware that this annual report exists as the question of grade distribution often comes up in college discussions.
  - The grade distribution is pretty stable each term, particularly comparing fall, spring and summer together.
  - The report also provides data for the impact of the new withdrawal policy which was implemented in Fall 2010. Faculty Association lead the revision of the policy following data indicating that 20% of Valencia grades were W and the percentage was the highest among colleges in Florida.
  - It was observed that the % of W grades has declined since the new policy was implemented and that the % of D and F increased somewhat at first but now have returned to previous levels. It also noted that I grades have increased.
  - It was asked if Flex Start classes have been analyzed separately. They have not.

## ➤ Adjunct/ Full Time Faculty Data Question Raised in CLC- **Joyce Romano**

- A discussion at the September College Learning Council included a question about the implications of faculty status (full-time/part-time) on student success.
- Stacey stated that it might be a good idea to look at this data on an annual basis.
- Both Nick and Stacey have previously looked at this type of data and neither saw much variance of grades between courses taught by full time or part time faculty.
- One of the challenges of the study design is who to count as full-time and part-time. For example, a full time employee who teaches a class is part-time faculty but has the full time connections to the college (which is one of the assumptions about the disadvantages of having a large percentage of part-time faculty).
- David suggested grouping the data by course pre-fix.
- A working group will design research questions and bring those questions back to the team.
  - Proposed working group includes: Nick Bekas, Alys Arceneaux, Michelle Foster, and Rob McCaffrey.

➤ **Title III- Joyce Romano**

- Joyce discussed the summary document provided on the new West Campus grant award.
- The grant is 2012-2017 and the work will be evaluated annually.
- An external investigator will be hired.
- Pre-Nursing and Business students are the targeted population.
- There are many elements to the strategies including new student experiences, building pathways, faculty engagement, faculty development, educational planning, and advising services.

➤ **Supplemental Learning Research Plan in Progress - next steps- Cathy Penfold Navarro**

- The SL Research plan was approved on March 15, 2011 by the College Data Team but was never implemented due to the organizational restructuring of the college. It was revived and approved by the Deans of Learning Support and Executive Deans on September 25, 2012.
- Leonard asked what the estimated timeframe for the research would be. Joyce recommended that the plan be completed by April if there will be any budget changes recommended.
- Cathy will follow-up with Julie Phelps and Mike Bosley to lead the research team.

➤ **Discussion of Research Plan and Report Template- Laura Blasi**

- Laura presented the team with a sample research outline/plan.
- Joyce suggested adding clarifying language related to IRB requirements and the Methodology section.

- Laura will also emphasize communicating with Institutional Research for data details.
- Research Plans for Statway Developing – **Laura Blasi**
  - Laura and Roberta shared the attitude questions that Carnegie is willing to share with us and asked the team to clarify their expectations as to how the questions would be used.
  - Nick stated that he was curious to see what the questions were before deciding if/when/how to use them.
  - Cathy discussed the possibility of using them as a predictor of success in non-statway classes.
  - The group discussed methodology concerns revolving around the course mode for statway and non-statway courses and how/when the questions will be asked. The amount of time taken away from instruction was a primary concern.
  - Roberta recommended that the Statway sub-group convene to create research questions and report back to the Data Team.
  - Laura is still working to acquire the reports discussed in the last meeting from Carnegie.
- Other Items
  - Stacey Johnson discussed a faculty concern. Faculty are curious as to how students are performing after leaving their class.
    - Darryl stated that IR is working on answering a similar question.
    - Nick suggested asking “why” the faculty want this information to help identifying any underlying questions or goals.
    - Stacey will work with the executive team to provide a list of courses to start examining.
  - Laura briefly discussed an upcoming project with BRIDGES.