

Minutes for the ATD Meeting

January 26, 2015

The Achieving the Dream Core Team met Monday, January 26, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 124 of the Logistics Center. Those present were Michelle Lilly-Williams, Debra Jones, Dr. Shirley Armstrong, Angela Davis, Daa'Iyah Salaam, Drenda Davis-Jackson, Regina Watts, Rhonda Gordon, Calvin Lee, Dr. Kim Lee, Dr. Lisa De Jesus, Carla Jester, Wendy Howell, Kristel Baranko, Mary Richardson, Troycia Webb, Beth Brown, Lori Cleymans, Joy Knighton, Dr. Anthony Parker, and Emmett Griswold.

I. Review/Approval of Minutes

Michelle Lilly-Williams brought the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. After the minutes from the last meeting on December 1, 2014, were reviewed, Ms. Lilly-Williams made the motion to accept the minutes as presented with a second by Kristel Baranko. The motion passed.

II. AtD Coaches' Visit Recap

Ms. Lilly-Williams presented a recap of the AtD Coaches' Visit. She commended all of the committees for being ready for the visit, especially in regard to the Evaluation Plan. The visit was an opportunity to review our progress. The coaches applauded the efforts to remove barriers for late registrants with the implementation of the Delayed Term and the ongoing attempt to reduce barriers associated with processing and Financial Aid. Their advice was to continue to monitor closely timelines for allowing evidence of successful interventions. The coaches left us with the question, "Where do we go from here?"

III. Achieving the Dream Renewal Contract and Focus Areas

In answer to that query, Ms. Lilly-Williams said the college would start by renewing its contract with Achieving the Dream in March. The immediate areas of focus will be (a) Community Engagement to inform the community and to recruit new students, (b) the Data Team to amass the data necessary to gauge how we are moving the needle, and (c) Communication to keep all stakeholders informed on campus. The newsletter and its content were discussed as an important communication tool. Other initiatives will be added as needed.

Ms. Lilly-Williams acknowledged Dr. Anthony Parker's presence and invited him to address the group. He expressed his concerns about the new name change for the system and its possible impact on our college's name. He spoke about successes with retention and placement attributed partly to such initiatives as Achieving the Dream, Complete College Georgia/America, and the Enrollment Management Plan (Dream Report). The president also noted that some students are receiving certificates but not

completing the diploma or associate degree programs. Ms. Lilly-Williams suggested the group add this problem as the fourth focus area for the future.

As spokesperson for Community Engagement, Ms. Watts provided an overview of Strive to Thrive enrollment efforts. Dr. Lee reminded everyone of the need to follow the logic model and record progress in all areas indicated in the Evaluation Plan.

IV. Dream Conference 2015

Ms. Lilly-Williams announced the dates for the Dream Conference 2015 to be held February 17-20 in Baltimore, Maryland. She informed the group that our Albany Tech student was not selected for Student Perspective. Those attending were told to be ready to share information learned at the conference with the Core Team.

IV. Proposed Day and Time Change for Core Team Meeting

A discussion was held to determine a better meeting day and time. Everyone was asked to decide on other alternatives to present at the next meeting on February 9. Dr. Lisa De Jesus then announced "Go to College Night," an upcoming community collaborative event to highlight higher education that will be hosted by ATC on February 9. A SASET event is planned for February 12 at 3:30 p.m. for high school students who will be graduating from high school having also earned an associate degree at the same time.

V. Next Meeting Date

Ms. Lilly-Williams concluded the meeting by saying she looked forward to seeing everyone again on February 9 at the next scheduled meeting.

Debra Jones,
Recorder