

Minutes for the ATD Meeting

August 26, 2015

The Achieving the Dream Core Team met Wednesday, August 26, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. in Room 124 of the Logistics Center. The agenda included the following items: (I) Review of Minutes, (II) Old Business of Delayed Term and Priority 3 & ATC Lean Six Sigma Project, (III) Committee Updates, (IV) New Business of AtD Newsletter announcements (V) Additional Discussion Items, and (VI) Next Meeting.

Those present were Mattie Buchannon, Troycia Webb, Shirley Armstrong, Mary Richardson, Regina Watts, Lisa De Jesus, Beth Brown, Kristel Baranko, Debra Jones, Angela Davis, Rhonda Gordon, Dot Garner, Emmett Griswold, and Michelle Lilly-Williams.

I. Review of Minutes

Michelle Lilly-Williams brought the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. She asked if everyone had reviewed the minutes. Baranko then made the motion to accept the minutes as presented with a second from Davis.

II. Old Business

Lilly-Williams revisited the topic of the Delayed Term. After discussion, it was the consensus that the Delayed Term would not be offered Fall Semester 2015. De Jesus wants to review the data from last fall and spring terms to determine the past effectiveness of the intervention. The new admissions director and his staff will then explore the feasibility of D Term for next spring semester.

A discussion was held in regard to Priority Three (Retention) and its overlap with the Lean Six Sigma Project where Team #1 is focusing on retention and completion. It was decided that those on the LSS Project teams who are also on the AtD Core Team could provide reports on the project's progress on retention rather than duplicate the work. De Jesus expressed her concern over abandoning Priority Three, advising that it be closed out and so documented in writing for future AtD reporting.

III. Committee Updates

De Jesus provided an update on Student Engagement. She informed the group about the Violence against Women Act and the college's efforts to educate students about this issue. Ever-Fi software will be used for online instruction. Jones noted that this curriculum will also be integrated in the COLL 1020 course fall semester as a way to reach incoming students. Achieving the Dream, , the CUBES principles (**C**ommitted leadership, **U**se of evidence to improve programs and services, **B**road engagement, **E**quity, and **S**ystemic institutional improvement) and MOWR are other areas to work on to increase student awareness.

Priority One focuses on enrollment services and has resulted in the Start Right Desk in the Kirkland Building. De Jesus observed that during heavy traffic periods (two weeks before the semester begins) the single point for routing students can cause a bottleneck. Other alternatives during peak times will be considered. MOWR has increased the need for more services and greater collaboration with high school counselors.

Jones summarized the progress in Priority Two. The statistics for success in the provisional Gen. Ed. classes remain steady. Pass rates are up in COMP 1000, and COLL 1020, the new student success course, has had an average pass rate of over 70% for two semesters, all promising indicators. ATC's plan for embedding Learning Support into the credit-bearing Gen. Ed. courses was shared with other TCSG colleges at a recent state-wide meeting in Macon as a model to follow.

Baranko offered an update on Faculty Engagement, announcing that the fall staff development schedule is set and that she and Jill Mash are already working on the one for spring. Baranko and Mash are striving to create a conference atmosphere with informative, engaging sessions.

Watts reviewed the Community Engagement activities, which included Strive to Thrive and the Turner Job Corps partnership.

IV. New Business

Lilly-Williams reminded everyone that the AtD Core Team meeting minutes were posted on the ATC website.

She encouraged all to take advantage of the sessions announced in the Achieving the Dream newsletter. They include Featured Interventions – Athens Technical College: Student Success Specialist Certificate for Faculty and Staff, webinar on Scaling Effective Strategies on September 3, ATD/SAS Data Summit on September 8-11, Technology Solutions Webinar Series on September 16, Data Insight Webinar Series on September 17, Second Annual Culturally Responsive Teaching Conference on September 19 at Community College of Baltimore County, Jenzabar Foundation Student Success Forum on Financial Literacy and Empowerment on October 14, Moving the Needle 2015 Conference on October 27-30, Dream 2016 on February 23-26 in Atlanta, and the 2016 Carnegie Foundation Summit on Improvement in Education on March 22-24.

V. Additional Discussion Items

During this time Armstrong introduced the Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Dorothy Garner. Lilly-Williams praised Armstrong for her leadership of the AtD Core Team and her contributions to the initiative over the years and wished her a happy retirement.

VI. Next Meeting

The next AtD Core Team meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 9, at 2:00 p.m. The meeting adjourned.

Debra Jones,
Recorder