ACHIEVING THE DREAM CORE TEAM MEETING
Provost’s Conference Room- CG Building
31 August 2010- 2:00 PM

A. Meeting Started at 2:07 PM

• Kathy Lloyd, Core team chair and members of the core team reiterated their congratulations to Laura Franklin for having received the Distinguished Service Award from MERLOT.
• Notes from the May meeting were reviewed. The following are recommendations from the last meeting: revision of implementation plans, evaluation of current data, continuation of development of plans for developmental English, evaluation of gaps for gatekeeper courses.
• Plans for this year were distributed. Core Team members will be heading some of the activities: QEP-Pat, Laura Franklin, and Tanya; FYE-Tanya, Bev-NCAT; liaison to developmental English Task Force-Susan Givens. Chairs of new task forces will be invited to join the core team.
• Kathy discussed AtD philosophy for new members: AtD is data driven; aims to close the achievement gap of students [i.e. by looking at ethnicity and race and identifying where there are gaps and implementing interventions to close the gaps]; aims to alter college culture to focus on student success; and focuses on interventions which will affect a large number of students. The five goals of AtD are to help students:

  successfully complete developmental courses and proceed to credit courses

  successfully complete gatekeeper courses

  complete courses with a “C” grade or better

  persist from one semester to the next

  complete a certificate or degree

B. Campus Team roles and responsibilities:

• To support various college-wide interventions such as learning communities, NCAT task force, professional development events, implementation of SDV and NSO, focus groups

  George told the group that student, faculty and staff focus groups facilitated by Hanover, a research consulting group, will be conducted on the fourth week of September, with results published November-December. Campus teams will be responsible for the recruitment of participants. The core team will discuss which classes and courses to focus on.

• Other areas where campus teams are involved are supporting adjunct faculty members, the use of technology to improve student success, summer bridge programs, and interactions of college and high school partners.
• Kathy suggested that campus leaders present a report to provost staff twice a semester that team leaders need to meet with the provost once a month. Core team members were encouraged to bring their respective provost into the loop.

• Campus Announcement
  • At LOUDOUN, an IT-artist will draw up a plan to publicize AtD on college TV. Pat added that it is a good time to look at ways to raise awareness of what AtD is, what it is doing, and market it college-wide. George also suggested to use the college panel heavily to market AtD, and come up with a good symbol or logo to put out on TV.
  • ANNANDALE will host the author of the book The College Fear Factor, Rebecca Cox. The book was selected for campus-wide reading group discussions. The SENSE data was echoed in the book. Cox surveyed faculty in different community colleges. She will be in the AN campus on October 1st from 10-noon. The book might be a good reading for core team members- and connects very well with what AtD is doing. It was suggested that the presentation be videotaped for those who may not be able to attend
  • ALEXANDRIA has invited the Vice President and a Dean from El Paso Community College to speak about AtD on Oct. 5 at three different sessions: early morning, midmorning, and in a luncheon meeting with deans. ELCC is a good match for AL in terms of its diverse student population

• MANASSAS is adopting a new mentoring program that pairs full time faculty with part time faculty. Each part time faculty is assigned a mentor and meets with a group four times a week to see to it that syllabi are complete, attendance sheets are filled out, to offer support by visiting classes. The evaluations received regarding the mentoring were excellent.

C. Cross college team meeting is scheduled for FRIDAY, October 29, 2010. Deans and provosts are invited. The annual meeting is held to have conversations and exchange ideas about where we are, and to share data. Laura Franklin is in charge of organizing the meeting. The SENSE data could be the focal point of the meeting. Lunch will be provided and presentations will follow. It is suggested that students should be invited (possibly from the LCs, or identified by the teams). Another suggestion is to have the students filmed or videotaped and then invite them to the event. Each campus team is tasked with submitting the names of students. Laura and Virginia will work on the video. Laura will send an e-mail to campus teams to remind them about students who will be involved.

D. Gatekeeper courses data report- George reported that data were broken down into gender, ethnicity, age, etc. He noted that female students were performing better in gatekeeper courses in comparison to their counterpart. Generally, Hispanic and Black students were not doing well in gatekeeper courses, particularly the males. AtD will propose recommendations to address the needs of students not doing well in gatekeeper courses. The focus groups to be conducted in September should be with these groups of students. The data should also be discussed in campuses. The Admin Council Retreat on Oct. 18 will include discussions about college readiness, specifically, minimizing the
number of students being placed into developmental classes, and moving them out of developmental education faster.

E. Feedback to AtD Annual Report
   • NOVA was selected as a “leader college”. Responsibilities related to this distinction include mentoring other colleges. We will assemble a group to handle this.
   • Among strengths cited in the report were:
     * Embracing student success as a strategy
     * NOVA’s use of data and reports to refine intervention
     * Development of task forces with representatives from all campuses to address student success

   However, areas needing special attention were also mentioned, e.g.
     * Networking with other AtD schools
     * Disaggregation of data with NSO intervention to see if at-risk students have been served (Which sub-groups of students have been affected, which have not?)

     * Scaling up orientation [require NSO - or mandatory eventually]

F. Proposals to the Strategy Institute in Indianapolis, IN, in February of 2011
   It was decided that the following proposals will be submitted: 1. the use of data in developing NSO, 2. the use of technology in achieving student success and 3. Woodbridge faculty’s taking the lead in the development of the NCAT proposal.

G. Other topics
   George is looking at the possibility of providing budgets to all campus teams. He reminded the members about the coaches’ visit, and the team preferred Nov. 2-5 over Oct. 22-27th. He also suggested to team leaders to include a dean and student services rep as members of the campus team. Team leaders were requested to send an updated list of AtD campus members