

Student Advisory Council Meeting - October 13, 2016

Members present:

Dr. David Whaley, Dr. Jacqueline Hansen, Tami Dandeneau, Dr. Paul Lucko, Dr. Jennifer Earls, Dr. Robert Lyons, Dr. Barbara Washington, Alicia Gower, Mimi Eaton, Elizabeth Hunter, Camille Brewer, Nellie Snead, Kimberly Hanberry Shelton (recorder)

Dr. Whaley began the meeting by welcoming everyone and stated how important this Student Advisory Committee is to the College of Education and Human Services. He emphasized as faculty, staff, and administration, we are all very interested in the student's perspective and how to improve lines of communication and help the College to be more student friendly.

Dr. Whaley expressed that the outcome of meeting is for the College to better understand what is going on in students' minds, and to broaden the relationship to collaborate as faculty and students. As student members of this council, it is expected of them to share messages with their peers.

Dr. Whaley passed out prompt questions to all attendees.

Question and Answer session:

Dr. Whaley posed the question "What is the best way to communicate with students in the college"?

- Mimi responded if anything big, such as, student teaching deadlines are coming up, an email sent out to those affected.
- Multiple student members agreed and suggested a Canvas "course" to be developed for every student in the college to have access. This group would provide information for important items like student teaching deadlines, info sessions, and a place for discussion.
- Dr. Earls suggested also including a virtual suggestion box within the Canvas Group.
- Students members suggested Facebook should not be used as a primary form of communication.

Dr. Whaley asked "How has your experience been as a student in this College?"

- Mimi responded her experience has been great all around and she is happy to see the new Praxis Center forming and sees it as a very valuable asset for future students.
- Alicia, who switched from Nursing to Elementary Education, also reported her experience has been great. She praised the collaboration labs and allowing her the opportunity to practice with technology such as SMART Boards as well has be a place to practice group projects. All other student members strongly agreed with Alicia's statement.

Dr. Washington asked "What has been your experience with advising?"

- Elizabeth reported her experiences have been mostly positive, but she has noticed some contradictory information being shared from one advisor compared to the another student's advisor who is on the same academic track as she.
- All other student members present reported all positive experiences with with advising.
- Elizabeth also reported she knows of several secondary students would like more inclusion with COEHS, and wishes for better communication between their two advisors.

Dr. Hansen asked "How could the College improve the field experience?"

- Mimi responded she feels as if students should be in the classroom and teaching, practicing, and feeling comfortable earlier than right before student teaching.

Dr. Whaley asked the group if they are familiar with Charlotte Danielson framework.

- The students responded they are not strongly prepared in. Mimi mentioned she remembered reading briefly about it in EDU 103 but it was not elaborated on.
- Many of the student members who have been in their practicum believe there needs to be more emphasis placed on project based learning - need more emphasis before going out into the field.
- Elizabeth mentioned she felt faculty should discuss the recent changes of no child left behind. She also noted none of her practicum experiences have used the CHAMPS model.
- Dr. Lyons presented the idea of holding student professional development to discuss Danielson method, etc.

Dr. Whaley began to talk about the public perception of the lack of rigor in your coursework.

- Mimi stated she felt the MID program rigor has been appropriate.
- Dr. Whaley began to describe rigor as the experience of probing very deeply about the content they are learning.
- Nellie stated she believed more rigor could be added to some of her courses as they just barely skimmed the surface.
- Elizabeth responded she noticed that rigor really began to increase in the field based experiences.
- Dr. Whaley asked "What can be done in the classroom to increase this"?
 - Student members responded: Micro teaching, jigsaw learning, more case studies (Will also help with PLT)
- Dr. Whaley explained the national research being done concerning rigor.

What are your thought about technology in the college?

- Mimi stated she has had positive, experience with the technology and the EDU 222 has really helped.
- All student members praised the EDU 222, and said it definitely will make a difference in their teaching experience.
- Elizabeth presented the idea of how to incorporate technology but also what to do if the school does not have the best technology.
- Dr. Earls asked, "How do you view technology in your instruction?"

- Mimi stated she viewed it tech as an enhancement and a tool.
- Dr. Lyons presented scenarios to the students to see how comfortable they would feel dealing with technology issues in the field.

Dr. Whaley asked the students what new initiatives should the college look into?

- Mimi suggested ELL tutor training would be helpful.
- Alicia mentioned more knowledge about how to work students with disabilities would be beneficial.

Announcements:

Dr. Whaley announced we will have a car in the Homecoming parade and we are looking for students that can join and walk along the parade.

Dr. Whaley announce to the students CAEP and EPSB will be here for an onsite visit in November 13-15 and will want to meet with some students.