Academic Advising Committee Meeting  
December 10, 2015

Members Present: Brian Cawley; Gladys E. Ovalle; Travis Gibbons; Dana Hebreard; Thea Brophy; and Julie Yonker. Guest: Todd Dornbos

I. Welcome

Julie passed out the agenda, Mandate, and pre-health advisor position. October meeting minutes were distributed, and approved.

II. Content

Julie gave update on the pre-health advisor position. The Provost had noted that the position would need to be reviewed in March and discuss what may need to be eliminated if it was approved. To do: Julie was going to set up meeting with Provost. Done.

Travis gave a brief description of the career coach position to the committee. This is a result of the new restructuring in the career development office. Spent time talking about the similarities/differences between the two positions. Need to articulate a very clear line between the two positions as the career coach is just a result of the restructuring within the career development office.

Advising Committee Mandate - COG

• Julie noted that the COG spent time reviewing the committee mandate. The group reviewed the updates and made additional suggestions on the language in the document.

Todd shared information about retention and also the first-year students

• Julie asked about the language around the student support specialist. Service providers all over campus and there is a need to share support all over campus. There were some questions about the specifics regarding the position. At this point, Todd indicated that at this point we would preliminarily assign these SSS folks to only the group of people that are indicated to be at risk.
• How would these groups be structured? Is it okay that students are meeting with a lot of people around campus? Julie's concern is that this person is managing the information (metacognitive) instead of getting the front line person.
• Many were in agreement that it is best for first year students to have someone able to walk alongside them.
• Pre-assign students to this person… Brian said the information is the fact that the real benefit would be the gathering and sharing of information. You can't mandate relationships.
• The vision has been first and second year students (but the crisis situations would include upperclass students).
• Travis noted that the GVSU (Behavior Team) is similar to Calvin's CARE Team
• Thea mentioned her role in academic services. The assumption according to Todd would be that academic services would own the system.
• Talked about the connection to the first-year program. Thea noted that in her best practices research Calvin was one of the few institutions that relied only on faculty advisors.
• Aspects of the student support specialist sounded similar to the Faculty Liaison position the committee had discussed with the provost a few years ago. Give Todd a copy of the liaison information.

We need to be strategic about the concerns and have better on ramps for those students.

III. Conclusion