

Admissions and Financial Aid Committee

January 24, 2014

Present: Kevin Saunders, Sandy Henry, Andrew Welch, Laura Linn, Bob Soltis, Susan Ladd, Tom Delahunt, Keith Summerville, Sentwali Bakari, Cody Edwards, LouAnn Simpson, William Hatchett (Guest), Melisa Klimaszewski

1) Admissions Update

- Tuition deposits are coming in at a reasonable pace.
- On track to have a record number of applications; set a goal for 4100 admits.
- Yield goal – 22% (last year was 20.5%) – if we yield 22% we'd yield out 904 students
- Biggest concern – where the increases are – biology is way up but its programmatic yield is low – 17%. We need to increase yield in programs that traditionally yield lower than university average.
- Reported on new technology application – preptalk – allows remote/web-based video and “public meeting” with admitted students

2) CREW update

- 15 scholars in the first cohort
- Challenges related to the racial / ethnic climate on campus
 - Moving in early had an enormous impact in their comfort level on campus
 - Meeting in June and moving in as a cohort eased anxiety of coming to a predominately white campus
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- All CREW scholars is registered for spring – 2 considering leaving
- 20 will be in the next CREW
- Committee voiced considerable support for CREW and advocated for a broader, committed campus-wide dialog for promoting discussions of diversity

3) Retention Strategies Update

- Trying to pull retention threads together across campus
- CREW, proactive advising model (Melissa S-S / Chrystal Stanley / Michelle Laughlin's work)
- How can we leverage best practices that we are developing in compartmentalized programs and infuse them across campus? There will be a retention report on best practices across campus in two weeks (Kevin Saunders is pulling this together)
- Starting to dig into data on Fall-Spring retention and 1 year retention for EFR to SO level. Also working to understand retention data for upper-class students.

