

Admissions and Financial Aid Committee Meeting

October 10, 2014

Minutes

Members Present: Tom Delahunt, Kevin Lam, Lou Ann Simpson, Laurie Blachford, Andrew Welch, Megan Franklin, Keith Summerville, Melissa Sturm-Smith

- I. Admissions Report (Tom Delahunt)
 - Kinesiology approved by A&S Council – now goes to Board for approval
 - Up about 40 applications to date relative to last year (entirely too early to make any conclusions about this). 1500 total applications thus far.
 - Reports from counselors on the road is positive
 - Peer updates – Midwest data share
 - Bradley down 137 EFR; down 39 transfer
 - Creighton up 62 EFR; up a few transfers
 - DePaul up 100 EFR; down a large number of transfers
 - Loyola down 208 EFR
 - Evansville down significantly
 - Denver up 20 EFR
 - Valpo down 163 EFR
 - Dayton up 324 EFR; up 30 transfers
 - Tisleen Singh leaving Admissions to take a position with a company in Chicago
 - Enrollment projections for OT/AT – projections come, at least in part, from student interest expressed when students take the SAT/ACT examination and pool of high school prospects that elect not to apply to Drake.
 - Additional admitted student days – Admissions discussing the utility of adding more visit days / admitted student days. No decision yet.
- II. Noel Levitz report (Tom Delahunt)
 - Average discount rate for the university will be 49%
 - Consultant highly supportive of new programs Drake is bringing online
 - Consultant thinks that Drake may struggle to maintain the quality of students that we attract given the amount money in aid other colleges / schools are throwing at the upper tier students (i.e., discount rates of 60% or higher).
- III. QI / Focus groups (Lori Blachford / Melissa Sturm-Smith)
 - Rankin and Associates on campus two weeks ago (to gather information on environmental at Drake and issues with diversity on campus)
 - Rankin prepping a campus survey – judge campus climate on diversity and the atmosphere on campus

- Seems like the university circles around conversations regarding how to make the campus more welcoming / building s common sense of community without much concrete action steps.
- Meeting with CREW scholars – what is “CREW”? – Have we developed a sense of common identity for that program? Students in the CREW have various understandings regarding what CREW is (rest of campus doesn’t know / doesn’t understand).
- We should expect the Survey to be delivered early Spring 2015 (Feb 3)
- Web site created for QI: <http://www.drake.edu/climate-assessment/>

IV. Expansion of Test-optional admissions across the country (Tom Delahunt / Keith Summerville)

- List of current national liberal arts colleges and schools distributed that have moved to a de-emphasis of SAT/ACT test scores
- There are now 800 schools across the country that have gone to test optional admissions
- “Test flexible” – if you don’t submit your test then students are required to submit additional writing samples / evidence of competencies
- Super Score trend – take highest subscore on ACT.SAT across multiple exams per student and combine them to get the highest possible combination of test scores – Washington University does this.

V. Retention Data from the last year

VI. Next meeting October 24, 2014 in TMR 132 at 9am.