Student Life Task Force Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 8, 2015
Moscow PST 2:00 – 5:00 pm / Boise MST 3:00 – 6:00 pm
UI Commons – Horizon Room / Boise Water Center #210

Moscow Attendance: Jean Kim (Vice Provost SAEM), Dave Pfeiffer (Faculty Rep), Dan Alsaker (Greek Alum), Troy LaVigne (IFC President - additional student asked to join task force), McKenzie McDonald (ASUI Senator), Deedee Kanikkeberg (Dir Housing/Res Life), Blaine Eckles (DOS) & Sandy Lane (staffing).

Boise Attendance: Kent Nelson (General Counsel), Marilyn Fordham (Greek Alumnae), Dick Reilly (Greek Alum), Frances Ellsworth (Greek Alumnae) and Sandy Fery (Greek Alumnae).

Joining by phone: Laird Stone (Greek Alum)

Guest: Dale Pietrzak (Institutional Research & Assessment)

Absent: Erin Agidius (Interim Dir HRAI), Caleb Quates (student) and Robin Shoemaker (Asst to VP). Caleb Q. has a class conflict and Robin S. working on DOS medical withdrawals.

1. Data Review Status: Information was presented by Dale Pietrzak.
   a) Retention by residency:
      The variable of Greek vs non-Greek: Greek students are retained at higher rate than non-Greek. There are 2 veins; retention and success. Both of these equate to social connection to the institution which translates to pledging. There are large variations between Greek houses so detail at a higher level is minimal. Housing within Residence Life was another variable. Other than Gooding Hall (last hall where students are assigned), the level of performance (GPA) was assessed. In general, Greek students out-performed non-Greek. Some control factors of the analysis included high school GPA, housing type, financial aid type (Direct Loan, Pell Grants, non-Pell Grants), and gender. Data used was from the last academic year 2014-2015.
      In previous UI studies, assessments have included multiple years; such as 3-4 year periods.

   b) Status of Survey (1st and 2nd year students): An online survey of the 1st year student’s experience was administered by Institutional Research and Assessment. This included quantitative and qualitative analysis as the students were able to include their own personal comments. Jean will make sure written comments are summarized and themes identified and share the report with the task force in early Jan 2016. The analysis of the quantitative data is contained in the research report that Dale completed. Dale will join the Student Life Task Force meeting in early February to discuss the survey results. The survey closed around the Thanksgiving holiday and we received 899 responses.

2. Data Collection in process:
   a) Focus group status and next steps:
      Chapter Advisors – the meeting has been changed from 12/10 to 12/14.
      Residence Hall Directors – the group meetings were completed 11/30.
      Parent Advisory Council – the group meeting is scheduled for 12/8.
      Non-Greek – The Spokane/CDA group meetings were held 12/1 & 12/2. The attendees on 12/1 were mostly from the Spokane area. The 12/2 meeting was cancelled due to weather.
Non-Greek - The Boise meetings are scheduled for 12/7 & 12/9.
Interfraternity Council (IFC), Panhellenic Council (PHC) – The meetings occurred 11/3, 11/8.
House Directors, Greek Presidents Council – The meetings occurred 11/17, 12/1.
Chapter Corporation officers - There are 12 corporation officers and the majority of them live outside of Idaho. Corporation officers are more focused on the business of the housing structures vs. providing input on the experience. Sandy Fery felt these financial based individuals are imperative and should be contacted via conference call or email survey. They are a vital group of alumnus and Dick Reilly suggested asking them if they would prefer email communications or a campus visit. Kent Nelson stated that they run the business components and can communicate the impacts of assorted recommendations. Sandy Fery suggested that the group know who the 12 individuals are. Chapter Presidents regularly convey this information to the Dean of Students. Troy LaVigne offered to find additional corporation officer names. The Boise task force members and Troy LaVigne agreed to review the existing list of Chapter Corporation Officers.

Actions:
- The existing list of Chapter Corporation Officers will be emailed to group to determine if names should be added or edited. Any adjustments are due to slane@uidaho.edu by 12/18.
- The group will email potential questions for the Chapter Corporation Officers to slane@uidaho.edu by 12/18.
- Determine if phone interview or email survey is preferred by corporate officers.
- Determine if officers would like to participate in a single location meeting; Boise or Moscow.
- Have the Corporation Officers provide names of those who would have financial survey of impact.

Focus Group Next Steps:
Please send notes as soon as they are ready. Once received, we’ll look for themes, analyze information, summarize data and send out original notes from each focus group as well as the summary document to the group membership in January 2016.

Action:
- Final focus group meeting notes should be emailed to Jean jeankim@uidaho.edu.

General Comments:
- Dick Reilly/Dan Alsaker noted that non-Greek attendees wanted to know the outcome of these focus group sessions.
- Blaine Eckles experienced high responses with great feedback.
- Frances Ellsworth noted there were 9 non-Greeks in attendance 12/7 and all had very positive living experience. There was a concern regarding the UI communications to them; they wished to see more in addition to increased promotional efforts.
- Jean Kim shared that alumni from Twin Falls (Magic Valley) learned of the focus group meetings and wished to be included. There was an agreement of the group to hold an open meeting at the end of Jan; possibly the 24th or 26th.
- Karole Honas is good local contact and has offered the use of her home should the group meet in southern ID. Jean Kim and Laird Stone will partner for facilitating this group.
**Action:**
- Last week of Jan is “Education Week” so Jean will check calendar availability to arrange for Magic Valley meeting.

b) **Survey of Vandal Alumni:** Qualitative surveys will not be implemented by Institutional Research & Assessment; only quantitative. There is a research group that charges a fee and the director of this group stated they could do it. There would be a charge per name/email sent/received/summarizing data but they can’t get to it until March/April 2016. Our alumni list is approximately 40,000 names so it would be costly. The group was in agreement that we should not pursue this.

The second Alumni newsletter went out just before Thanksgiving. This is a good method to distribute updates from this group. Sandy Fery added that the Vandal Scholarship Fund list should be included with the alumni email list we are currently using as it is a great opportunity to expand.

**Action:**
- Jean will request the list of Vandal Scholarship Fund individuals from the Development Office to add to the Alumni email list.

c) **Survey of National and international Sorority/Fraternity organizations:** Blaine Eckles and Marilyn Fordham have heard from about 1/3 of the organizations and will look to complete this in January.

**Action:**
- Their continued priority is to complete the data compilation.

d) **Student Conduct & behavioral complaints broken down by residency:** The existing UI database system for behavioral issues is ineffective for reporting purpose; it does not have the capability for the end user to query reports. It only prints the listing and any compilations or statistics must be done by hand. Deedeek Kanikkeberg and Blaine Eckles are working towards clearing up the data. It has been requested of the Moscow PD to prepare a report of all their responses specific to UI housing locations. It was shared that the number of police responses were 24 to UI Fraternities, 3 to UI Sororities and 31 to university housing locations.

**Action:**
- The number of students and incidents will be further analyzed and the information communicated to the group in January or February meeting.

e) **Greek Programming by chapter with info on the number of volunteer hours, funds raised, type of educational programs and number of monetary-type social programs:** Blaine Eckles shared that he was not getting much response from fraternities/sororities regarding social event statuses. Preliminarily, he has heard from approximately one half of the fraternities. There is a combined Fraternity/Sorority figure of funds raised at $46,000. There has been 8,600 hours of community service. Deedeek Kanikkeberg shared that Residence Life does not track community service hours but she can share a summary of events. The Volunteer Services office may have additional data.
Action:
• Deedee and Blaine will look into gaining additional data.

3. Discussion on University Finances: (VP Finance, Brian Foisy & Budget Director, Trina Mahoney)
A general presentation of how the institutional budget processes overlap and interact with institutional revenue, impact giving campaigns and relationship to UI areas, departments, programs and auxiliary housing programs was received. This included discussions on State funding from Boise and generated revenue from such sources as increased enrollment. Additional discussions were centered on:
- Not all revenue sources are discretionary; there are legal requirements as to how certain types of monies may be utilized. This is known as “fund” accounting.
- Donor funding is often restricted (Endowments, Gift Use Agreements, Continued Use Agreements, etc.) This category accounts for approximately $160 million of the UI’s total annual revenue sources of $460 million (all funds).
- $154 million is generated within the category of grants/contract; including 3.4 million in gift dollars.
- The category of “enrollment workload adjustment” (EWA) was mentioned as a “block” of funds that has some variance for the level achieved from year to year. This block of funds is based on student credit hours but the state is not mandated to actually distribute dollars to the institutions on a regular basis. You can’t depend on that money to be part of the general operating funds from year to year as the EWA funds may or may not be distributed to UI; the institutions are often only allowed to “bank – it” with the State of Idaho. Any monetary values historically bankrolled by the UI have since been utilized for mandated funding draw-backs, etc. The UI has now exhausted their EWA bankroll. Keep in mind that there are other State of Idaho institutions that banked it with the state board but were never allowed to use it; the UI was fortunate in their timing of the use.
- There are student driven revenues and funds generated via the Development Foundation.
- Dedicated activity fees adjustments: This process starts in fall with a formal presentation of costs in front of the UI Adjustment Committee. It then goes before the UI President and if approved, is sent to the State board in April to go before a vote.
- Tuition/Fee packages: Potential options are continually generated and considered during discussions with the state board. What is acceptable to balance of costs to students? Students are allowed to comment on process. Should the burden of increased costs to do business be passed on to students? There are many responsibilities as to what is needed to meet fiscal year obligations.
- Unrestricted funds are few and far between. We must do what is morally correct. For example, designated lab fees paid by students are unrestricted but should go to actual lab expenses.
- Tuition dollars: It is this category that SAEM may affect through increased enrollment numbers. Our actions must not be illegal, immoral or unethical.
- Next logical budget progression at UI: The budget proposals now go to the state board. We can’t compel the state to do anything; they may implement a fiscal claw-back or determine that student costs will not increase.
Concept of Incremental Budgeting: The institutional operating budget will be what they have always received.

Concept of Reallocation Budgeting: Asses needs and then redistribute and prioritize funds accordingly.

Concept of Zero Based Budgeting: The service industry often uses this practice but this does not work in academia. Operational budgets cannot start at zero and units just spend as needed to eventually have all expenditure lines back-filled with revenue.

What is the long term value of a student? This directly correlates to the long term state benefit of having an educated state resident base. Earning value is tied to college graduation rates and the average salary of its residents will increase for a more robust economy.

UI Alumni Giving Rate: This rate is currently 12-13% and it is felt to be too low. What is the tipping point?

4. Future agenda: The monthly spring meetings need to be set up. January is going to be a very busy month and it was proposed and accepted for February to be the next meeting.
   February/March/April: Meeting slots will be 3 hours and occur in the first part of the month.
   Action:
   • Sandy Lane will send out some calendar options to the group. Timeframe of meeting will remain the same; Moscow 2-5 pm & Boise 3-6 pm.

5. Other Items:
   - Jean opened discussions of first digesting the data and then how and what the group would be proceeding with next.
   - Weekend of April 2nd, 2016: Sandy Fery announced to the group that our Kappa friends will be celebrating their 100th anniversary the first weekend of April 2016 which will include the corporation President coming to Moscow for the event. There are 21 area hotels and it is anticipated that over 500 people will show up in Moscow for the anniversary event alone.
   The UIdaho Bound event is also scheduled to be held on Saturday, April 2nd. It was determined through discussions that there is actually a third event occurring on the weekend of April 2nd and 3rd, the U1 Annual Pow Wow. It should be noted that the weekend of April 16th is a Mom’s Weekend so that is why UIdaho Bound is set for April 2 & 23rd.
   A certain amount of angst is being felt in that three significant events will be occurring at the same time and there will not be enough lodging options available to all the attendees. It will be next to impossible for all these individuals to find lodging in Moscow & Pullman and it could have huge impacts on multiple programs and events. Brainstorming ensued as to how increased accommodation options may be located such as recreational vehicle parking near the Kibbie Dome and residents opening up homes.

Meeting adjourned at 4:48 pm