

RETENTION ACTION GROUPS PROGRESS REPORT

ACTION GROUPS RETREAT

MARCH 17, 2016; 8:00 am to 12:30 pm in MH 179

The following is the schedule for the presentations:

ACTION GROUP	PRESEENTATION TIME	ACTION GROUP MEMBERS
(1). Summer Bridge Program	8:10 am to 8:20 am	Jennifer Archibald (Chair); Lisa Crespo ; Michael G Huelshoff; Elyria Angela Kemp Lora Amsberryaugier; Nora Allen Chapuis
(2). Math and English	8:20 am to 8:30 am	Sarah Debacher (chair); Lori Hodges; Daniel E Doll; Cory Dumesnil
(3). Registration Barriers	8:30 am to 8:40 am	Miriam Daunis (Chair); Ann Lockridge Brett Kemker; Emily Q Laan; Edward Thomas Garcia
(4). 15 to Finish	8:40 am to 8:50 am	Rajni Ekta Soharu (Chair); Edward Garcia Kim D Jovanovich; Laura Scaramella Cherie Courseault Trumbach
(5). Intrusive Advisement	8:50 am to 9:00 am	Martha Blanchard (Chair); Gerard Williams Wendy M Schluchter; Dimitrios Charalampidis; Kevin L Graves
(6). Housing	9:00 am to 9:10 am	Brian James McDonald (Chair); Mike Brauninger; Mark Slessinger; Carol Tanya Lunn; Marco A. Perez
(7). Black Male Initiative	9:10 am to 9:20 am	Kim Williams (Chair); Nora Allen Chapuis Gerard Anthony Williams; Patricia June Austin; Allen Burrell
(8). First Generation Initiative	9:20 am to 9:30 am	Nora Allen Chapuis (Chair); Amy Anderson King; John D Hazlett; Nelly Benko-Hakim Jeffrey D Schaffer
(9). Peer Mentoring	9:30 am to 9:40 am	Elaine S Brooks (Chair); N Adlai A Depano Janice Gail Janz
(10). Student Engagement and Community Building	9:40 am to 9:50 am	Dale-Ellen Malter O'Neill (Chair); Debra Carr; Brian James McDonald; Christiana J Thomas; David M Pearlman
(11). FYE and Orientation	9:50 am to 10:00 am	Christy Heaton (Chair); Mike Hoffshire Vincent Prior; Charles G Seab; Tarun K Mukherjee
(12). Career Advising	10:00 am to 10:10 am	Peggy Gaffney (Chair); Celyn Boykin Dan Harper; Pamela A Meyer; Amanda M Athey

I. Action Group: Summer Bridge Program

- Waiting for approval from the UL System Board (Dr. Nicklow and Matt Moore are working on this)
- Implementation is expected for Summer 2016
- Students will be provisionally admitted with an ACT math score of 16; English Act score of 15
- Students will be enrolled in a math course, supplemental math course, and one general education course
- After the summer semester, the students will roll over into the Pathways Program
- Potential of 150 students in the summer program

II. Action Group: Math and English

Co-requisite instruction to support developing writers

- 70 percent of Privateer Pathways students passed English 1157 on their first attempt
- ENGL 1003 (Writing Studio) has been added permanently to the catalog
- The FWP will offer faculty support and mentorship to 1003 instructors
- 76.1 percent of Privateer Pathways students passed with a grade of C or better in Math 1115 on their first attempt
- Math 1003 and Math 1006 have been offered as wraparound classes for Math 1115 and math 1031 respectively.
- Parachute course for students who were failing Math 1115 in Fall 2015: Of the 22 students in the parachute course, 13 (60%) were able to improve and receive a grade of D or higher.

Improving placement and advising in first-year writing courses

- The Write Class placement software will use multiple-measures to advise students into the correct course
- Universities where it's been implemented have seen significant gains in retention in first-year writing
- Pilot of Write Class slated to launch fall 2016

Improving student success in first-year math courses

- 20 sessions of Peer tutoring for Exam 4 and Final Exams in Fall 2015 (funded by HHMI grant)

III. Action Group: Registration Barriers

- Holds were reviewed in late fall. Ten holds were made less restrictive, one hold was eliminated.
- All colleges reviewed the prerequisites to 1000 and 2000 level courses in January. A large number of proposals were submitted to reduce or eliminate the prerequisites to intro-level courses. Courses and Curricula approved most and these changes will go into the 2016 catalog. Work on this action item is ongoing.
- The campaign to notify students of the need to clear all registration holds prior to their Fall enrollment periods is currently under way, spearheaded by Brett Kemker and Emily Laan. Fall registration begins on March 30.

IV. Action Group: 15 to Finish



**A smart investor
takes 15 a semester.**

1. **Idea:** Students taking less than 15 or more than 21 hours would be encouraged to enroll in and successfully complete 15 hours. This would be in accordance with the 4-year plan set by the individual curriculums (as published in the catalog) and help students graduate in 4 years. It would also be financially beneficial to students as they would not incur additional tuition for enrolling in more than 12 hours.
2. **Implementation Steps:**
 - a. Inform UNO community about the benefits of completing 15 hours per semester. Held meetings with Academic Counselors and First Year Advising about the action plan.
 - b. Creating a website about the benefits of 15 to Finish. Adding information on the main UNO, Registrar's and Admission's webpage to the action group page. This step is underway.
 - c. Distribute literature about the action plan to the incoming Freshman and Transfer students at various orientations. The first target orientation is the Spring Testing on April 9, 2016.
 - d. Adding 15 to Finish information on the tablets distributed by the Tablet Initiative (a recruitment action plan).
 - e. 15 to finish will be introduced in the UNIV curriculum.

V. Action Group: Intrusive Advisement

- **Advisement Policy:** Action Team collaborated with the Advisory Board for Academic Advising and the (ABAA) submitted a recommendation for a new Advisement Policy to the Provost.
[Mandatory advising for all students with less than 45 hours earned](#)
- **Professional Advisors:** Proposal to hire 7 additional advisors sent to the Provost. Due to budget constraints no timeline has been established for hiring.
- **Increase collaboration with college advisors and FYA:** The college advisors and the FY advisors discussed changes in college curriculum and/or 4 year plan to prepare for summer and fall 2016 advising.
- **Transition Plan from FYA to college advising:** FYA developed a program, tentatively called "2nd Year transitions". Pilot program was implemented week of February 29. COBA and COLA participated in the pilot. Advisory Board for Academic Advisement and FYA will discuss further development of the program for spring 2017 advisement.
- **UNIV syllabus change:** Member of the action team had a meeting with the UNIV team to begin discussion for the syllabus change.
- **Advising Survey:** Member of the action team working on constructing a survey to receive student feedback regarding advising.
- **Professional Development:** Member of the action team is researching resources to be used in the training sessions for advisors. Resources: NACADA and EAB.

VI. Action Group: Housing

Two 24 Hour Pontchartrain Hall Computer Labs

- 5 computers will be located on the 4th Floor of the South Hall & 1st Floor of the North Hall
- Furniture and computers acquired (no cost)
- Networking updates in progress (minimal/no cost)

Living Learning Community

- New affinity wing in Arts & Technology (to be named) has been created and will begin in Fall '16
- Faculty/staff have been identified to participate (discussion will begin this week)

UNIV Cohort

- Honors section of UNIV will be offered during the day in Pontchartrain Hall beginning Fall '16

Midnight Madness Basketball

- Partnering with Athletics and student organizations will begin once the NCAA releases the 2016-17 dates. A date should become available sometime in April.

V-Pass & Finals Finish (currently being discussed)

VII. Action Group: Black Male Initiative

- ❖ Developed BMI Mission statement
- ❖ Name BMI Group (moMENtum)
- ❖ Designed T-Shirt
- ❖ Selected 10 SSS students as BMI participants
- ❖ Assigned Faculty/Staff Mentors to each BMI participant
- ❖ Nominating 5 BMI students to attend the Men of Excellence Conference in Chicago in June 2016
- ❖ Currently planning moMENtum Kickoff event on Tuesday, March 29th Noon to 1:00 p.m.
Location TBA (Invites are on their way)
- ❖ Recognition for each Mentor and student at SSS Awards
- ❖ Mentor/Student activities scheduled
- ❖ Each BMI student will become a BMI Leader the following year.
- ❖ moMENtum scheduled to become its own student organization

VIII. Action Group: First Generation Initiative

- A pilot group of SSS students will be followed through their first year.
- SSS 1st Gen students currently
 - a. Receive tutoring, supplemental instruction
 - b. Participate in a learning community, attend cultural and academic enrichment activities
 - c. Eligible for supplemental grant aid
 - d. 1st Gen initiative group will follow up with Financial Aid and other offices to carry out stated tasks for a full rollout in the fall 2016 semester.
 - e. First Gen student group overlaps with BMI and Peer Mentoring groups.

IX. Action Group: Peer Mentoring

- ▶ We are reviewing current peer mentoring efforts in academic departments across Colleges. Data was collected at the end of fall 2015.
- ▶ In April 2016 we will send out a more comprehensive survey.
- ▶ Peer Mentoring Committee is working with colleagues who are initiating peer mentoring in Black Male Initiative and First Generation Initiative
- ▶ Working with Student Support Services to observe best practices for peer mentoring in Colleges
- ▶ Summer 2016- Work with Deans to identify two academic departments to kick off peer mentoring program in fall 2016
- ▶ Summer 2016- Create an application form for students interested in peer mentoring
- ▶ Establish a student incentive for peer mentoring- Course credit? Certificate?

X. Action Group: Student Engagement and Community Building

Student Lounge Area

- Receive approval for space in Gallery Lounge.
- Met with IT and Facilities to determine cost and scope of project for SGA proposed bill on March 1st.
 - 2 flat screen column mounted TVs w/ internet access for online gaming & TV viewing
 - 2 gaming systems with protective devices
 - 2 HDMI wall mounted ports for students to bring their own devices (in discussion)
 - Will utilize current seating and tables in the space
- Created an equipment check out procedure for students/organizations

University-Wide Smart Phone App

- SGA has secured funding for the OOHLALA app to be implemented in the fall.
- Provide students with lists of campus resources, SGA initiatives, student organization hubs, and an extensive campus calendar including student organization events and important deadlines
- For more information on this app, visit: <https://oohlalamobile.com/>

XI. Action Group: FYE and Orientation

- Veterans Orientation – took place in January 2016, there will be another one fall 2016
- Specialized UNIV for specific populations:
 - Veterans – fall 2016
 - Survey was sent to all Veterans to gauge interest, but also to provide overall feedback regarding their experiences at UNO as a Veteran student
 - UNIV GA, who is in the National Guard, assisted with research of what other institutions do regarding UNIV type classes for Veterans
 - Syllabus has been created, the peer mentor will be a Veteran
 - LGBTQIQ students and allies – fall 2016
 - For two years in a row, this has been a topic that students have said they'd like to see as a UNIV option
 - In fall 2014, we ran a First Year Interest group for LGBTQIQ students and allies that was successful
 - Transfer students – fall 2016
 - Designed to meet needs specific to transfer students

- Will be promoted at orientations, via email campaigns, and at TRL (Transfer Retreat for Leadership)
- Members of our FYE/Orientation action group along with members of the Veterans Recruitment action group and additional staff and faculty interested in assisting with Veterans are touring Nicholls Veterans Center today (March 3)

XII. Action Group: Career Advising

- Specialized UNIV for undecided majors – Fall 2017?
- Hire a GA to assist in the action plans for Career Advising
- Develop a 1-2 hour workshop “Lunch and Learn Career Exploration”
- Expand Career Services website to include additional information and resources with easy access by students and their families
- Reactivate ACOR 1006 for third/fourth semester students (this requires a budget to cover adjunct faculty salary and other small expenses)