RETENTION AND GRADUATION COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting
April 2, 2007
1849 Room, Student Center

Present: Jean Alicandro (ResLife); Paula Bunce (Planning); (Emily Chasse (Library); Timothy Craine (Math); Michael Davis (Biomolecular Sciences); Pat Deloy (Coop); Allan Frazier (Financial Aid); Myrna Garcia-Bowen (Academic Articulations & Partnerships); Mariette Gimmartino, (Registrar); Henry Greene (Marketing); Mary Pat Hager (School of Education); Patricia Hensley (Social Work); Elizabeth Hicks (Advising); Mary Horan (Arts and Sciences); Ramon Hernandez (Student Affairs); Sarah Jane Horrax (Student); Margaret Leake (LearningCtr); Carl Lovitt (Academic Affairs); Mark McLaughlin (InstiAdv); Olga Petkova (MIS); Susan Petrosino (Registrar); Awilda Reasco (PAS); Lisa Ricci-Washko (ITS); Michael Vincenti (Technology Education)

I. SSI Results
Ramon Hernandez of Student Affairs discussed the results of the Student Satisfactory Inventory doing a comparison between 2004 and now, 2007. A question/answer period followed. One of the concerns raised by the survey concerned students’ difficulty in scheduling courses. CCSU’s new AdAstra scheduling software, which can interface with the CAPP degree auditing software, will enable us to project our students’ need for specific courses and propose models for offering them more efficiently.

II. Retention and Graduation Data
Paula Bunce of Planning and Research distributed results of the 2006-07 CSRDE Retention Survey and how CCSU placed in comparison to her peer institutions. We have a graduation rate of 40% vs. 48%. The data showed that we are losing most of our students in the 2nd or 3rd year but not during the first year. She also gave a presentation of the OPIE Web Site and what information can be found. There is a lot of data which would be of interest to the various subcommittees. Some of the items mentioned were that students should know at least two years in advance what they should be taking during their 3rd or 4th year to graduate on time. We also need to look at the availability of courses to make this happen within the four-year time frame.

A discussion ensued regarding 099 classes and how many times students need to take it before passing. Since this is a BOT requirement how can we best serve students who need to take it more than once before moving on to major courses. Some take it as many as three times which sets them way back from graduating in the four-year cycle. We should also look at the number of students admitted to
CCSU who don’t meet admission criteria. The committee raised the possibility of instituting a required intervention as a condition for students on probation to re-enroll.

III. Subcommittee Reviews
One member of each subcommittee gave an update of what questions they will be asking and what data they will be looking at. A list of specific questions and subcommittee plans will be discussed at the next meeting.

IV. Exit Interviews
The Committee addressed the issue of developing an exit interview process. Although this has been suggested many times over the years it has never come to pass. This would be a great time to develop a process for this.