MINUTES – Committee On Academic Advising

November 14, 2014

PRESENT: K. Hermes, C. Crespi, M. Bigley, S. Cohen, C. Higham, P. Tucker (guest), K. Poppe, K. Oliva, L. Hall, M. Horan, M. Leake (guest), N. Moore(chair), Y. Kirby.

Meeting was called to order at 12:15 PM.

1. Minutes of October 2014 meeting – unanimously approved.
2. The committee bylaws were changed to reflect the renaming of the School of Engineering, Science and Technology. The committee also approved reflecting the renaming of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, contingent upon Board of Regents approval of that name change.
3. There was a lengthy discussion of the review of various advising software options, in particular the main features we would like to see that Degree Works will not provide. Improving and maximizing our Early Alert capacity, with automation of data gathering steps where possible, was identified as an important objective. Simplicity and Starfish were a topic of particular discussion, as they have been adopted by some other schools in our system. Many of the other software platforms either seemed undeveloped, overly intrusive, or duplicative of Degree Works capacities.
4. Beyond software, there was wide agreement that a campus culture of success, where a concern for advising suffuses the culture, is an equally important goal. Technological platforms by themselves cannot build the advising engagement that is needed to meet the current and future retention and graduation challenges.
5. Meeting adjourned at 1:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Petterson, Acting Secretary, CAA