

Notes from SADA Oct 3, 2017

Present: Alex Fitts, Leah Berman, Jen Schell, Jen Tilbury, Cindy Hardy, Sandra Wildfeuer, Mike Earnest, Robin Brooks, Gabrielle Russell, Ben Kuntz, Sara Andrew, Stacey Howdeshell, Bill Howard, Lena Krutikov, Kasey Miller, Peter DeCaro

Meeting times seem to be centered around Tuesdays and Fridays. The Doodle Poll is still open if members need to participate or revise their availability.

Placement Updates:

Math: No updates on Aleks. New course to assist students is being offered: DEVS F111, Math Study Skills, a one-credit 7-week course. In the Spring, it will be required for campus students but not for distance students. Dev Ed will pay for the tuition fees and book for AK residents only. This has not yet gone through a co-requisite change in the catalog. This will apply to DEVM 054 and DEVM 055 students, but they only need to take the course once. A trial class for 16 students ran last spring.

English: Nothing new on placement or numbering. DEVE faculty member Dana Greci is doing a reading study to find out what is being asked of students in their college classes re: reading. Alex Fitts shared that the Anchorage English Dept will be moving away from Accuplacer and will be using the Write Class program. This committee was not sure if this was official yet.

Campus Updates: **CTC:** Literacy Council ABE students to tour campus; **IAC:** strong tutoring program; **Comm:** Discussion of WRTG 111X pre-requisite – several philosophical differences with Anchorage; **Registrar:** motion to allow students to use UA Online to withdraw from a class. This hasn't been allowed due to mandatory advising. UAA has also agreed to implement the same pop-up that will warn students of negative consequences of dropping classes. Mike shared that he can adjust the workflow so that instructors are sent an email when a student withdraws. The motion is moving onto AdCom and then to Faculty Senate to permit this online withdrawal. Student athletes would have a hold on their acct. so they cannot withdraw by themselves; **RSS:** Student load per advisor is being examined. RSS now has paid student tutors rather than volunteer student tutors. **Bethel:** enrollment is up. **Bristol Bay:** New director on site and new staff on campus. They are expanding ABE and GED programs down to the Aleutians as well as setting up a Pearson Vue testing center and ESL classes. **Northwest:** new building on campus to serve students will open around Thanksgiving.

Discussion Items

First Year Experience: Alex Fitts shared the background re: FYE. This was put into place in 2009 by Dana Thomas and is based on a national model/structure that includes contact with faculty, intro to disciplines and research and student success curriculum. The idea is to engage students and integrate them into the university

community. It was offered for 4-5 years. There was not enough in the budget to continue this. Additionally, last year, there were several enrollment and retention subcommittees. One recommendation that came through was to require FYE for pre-majors. Pre-majors are now admitted as General Studies students, so this is a second step toward building a support system to help these students succeed. We currently do not have a good track record with pre-major students. The idea is that we can catch students in their first semester so we can get them on track right away – studies show that an indicator of retention is first semester GPA. The course would be a one-credit class (as part of 14 credits). Cindy brought up that DEV ED offers courses that are similar and for similar purposes and encouraged that DEV ED be part of the discussions as the course is shaped. The proposal is going to Curricular Affairs and then to Fac Senate.

Midterm Progress Report: It was expressed that the email message recently sent to faculty regarding Midterm Progress Reporting did not reflect the window of time policy wording that this committee revised. Mike suggested that this committee revise the wording in the email for the next semester.

Last Date of Attendance: Required for W, NB and F. The question came up for online courses -- faculty would report that last date of contact with the student.

Common Calendar: UAF will get a non teaching day, which has been Springfest in the past. The non teaching days proposed for 2018 would be the Wed before Thanksgiving or the day of Springfest.