Multicultural Network Meeting Summary
Thursday, December 11, 2014
1:30-3:00 p.m., Bolton 196

Present: Alejandra Lopez, Gary Williams, Enrique Figueroa, Diane Amour, Patricia Najera, Linda Huang, Dao Vang, Kelby Spann, Victoria Pryor, Warren Scherer, Twyla McGhee, Susan Fields, Gracelda Estrada, Thoy Bouakongxaya (guest), Gesele Durham (guest)

McNair Program – Thoy Bouakongxaya, Assistant Director

Thoy met everyone around the table and mentioned that the application deadline for this summer’s McNair Program is February 13, 2015 (since then, the application deadline has been extended to February 20, 2015). Typically, they will receive 30-40 applications for 15 slots. Thoy will schedule an information session for multicultural students on February 4, 2015 in Bolton 196.

Brief Updates
- **Applied/Admitted data** – Linda shared the information as of December 8, 2014. All of the numbers are up as compared to prior year.
- **Black male youth summit & initiatives** – Gary and Warren mentioned that the UWM black male initiative began in 2012, in connection to other boys of color initiatives in the community. About 600 people are estimated to attend the December 17th event, which offers middle and high school student tracks with 3 workshops per track. A black and brown boys summit is being planned in March, 2015, which will be held in Zelazo.

Academic Advising and Assessment – Gesele Durham, Director of AIR & Assistant Provost for Institutional Effectiveness

Gesele stated that advising is recognized as a critical component to retention. Starting in fall 2013, the assistant deans got together to discuss academic advising around the following four topics:
- Communication and consultation
- Core principles and guiding practices
- Consistency of student experiences
- Compensation and professional development
The group will present to the retention committee in February. In addition, the Enhancing Advising Committee works with ACN and AAPC, etc. on “how all fit in the world of advising.” It was also shared that UW-Madison has a more centralized advising point/office.

Cattrack is available for what you need to do in your office, including intake/outtake surveys for feedback purposes. Reports can be generated by students, providers, etc. Unfortunately, Cattrack data are not collected uniformly across campus.

Student Success Collaborative (SSC) was rolled out in fall 2014 for use by academic advisors. It’s a new tool that follows students and allows academic advisors to enter public and private notes. There is a SWAT team of about 6 individuals who are using SSC extensively and can train others on its utilization. **Cattrack and SSC are not conflicting tools.**
According to the senior survey, students are least satisfied about advising. This information is available by gender, school/college, race/ethnicity, etc.

Gesele emphasized that there is no discussion on the discontinuation of multicultural advising programs or any programs on campus. There is discussion, however, on how multicultural advising fits in with other advising services on campus. In assessing advising services overall, following are a few areas under consideration:

- Disparity of advising services
- Necessity and needs of services – in terms of what’s best for students
- Defining common things that all advisors should be doing (timeline: 1 year)

Phyllis King is in charge of the retention steering committee. Warren also serves on that committee. They are looking at data, HIP (High Impact Practices), and broader student experiences. The retention plan is available on the Provost’s website. It includes five primary objectives.

Warren and Keri did a presentation on HIP and found that students who are in the HIP trajectory achieved over white students. The plan is to get 100% of the incoming students into learning communities by 2017. In addition to learning communities, other HIP practices are service learning, undergraduate research, study abroad, etc.

**Campus Climate Survey – Warren Scherer**

Warren mentioned that it’s OK for the other multicultural offices to administer the campus climate survey. He just needs to submit the amendment materials.

**Spring 2015 Meetings**

Following are suggestions for invited guests at future meetings:

- Phyllis King – to talk about the retention plan (a working document) in February.
- Financial Aid – because of the March 1st FAFSA priority filing deadline and FA updates in February.
- Kyle Swanson – to talk about the math initiatives.
- New chancellor (announcement forthcoming soon)

**Announcements/Other**

Two flyers were distributed:

- Introduction to Business Course – explores the various fields of business that also satisfies the social science requirement.
- Panther Pause – a campus-wide study break on December 11, 2014 from 3-7 p.m. in Union Wisconsin Room.