
I. Announcements and Reports

Dr. Pomerantz made the following announcements:

A. The 1990 National Conference on Student Retention will take place July 7 - 10, 1990 in Washington, D.C.


C. The Seventh Annual Conference, "Academic Chairpersons: Developing Faculty, Students, and Programs," hosted by the Center for Faculty Evaluation and Development and National Issues in Higher Education Division of Continuing Education, Kansas State University, will take place February 7 - 9, 1990 in Orlando, Fla.

D. The results of the Faculty Survey appear to indicate an improved perception of the college by the faculty. Dr. Squitieri suggested a different interpretation of the data - and implications for the college - could be made. After a discussion, the chair decided that this topic would be pursued more fully at the next meeting.

II. The Minutes of October 26, 1989 were approved with the following correction:

"M. Cummings" should read M. Cummins.

III. Subcommittee on Retention Check-list. Dr. Pomerantz expressed the Committee's appreciation to Profs. M. Cummins, A. Figueroa, L. Suarez, and T. Suraci for their efforts in wording the Retention Check-list.

IV. A presentation and discussion on "Retention and the Community College" was given by Dr. Donna Genova. Among the recommendations, cited from her doctoral dissertation, Dr. Genova emphasized the following:
A. The college should establish a warning system, either at mid-semester or at the end of the semester, to notify counselors and/or academic advisors when a student receives a failure/debarment grade.

B. The establishment of a peer mentoring system that would pair a freshman student with a student from the same curriculum who has successfully completed three or more semesters to orient the freshman to the academic and social structure of the college.

C. The advisement process must be restructured so that the student is assigned to the same academic advisor -- perhaps the student's classroom teacher of a major subject -- throughout his/her college career.

D. The present method of scheduling classes primarily for the convenience of the faculty must be changed so that the needs of the student receive priority.

E. Students must be encouraged to make better use of campus resources while, at the same time, the present tutorial system must be revised so that it is less bureaucratic.

F. Increased numbers of financial aid counselors are needed so that a student does not become disenchanted with the college and decides to drop out.

G. The capacity of the college Day Care Center should be increased.

H. The college should have more "Open House" visitations to the campus and encourage "potential" students to invite a family member or close friend since outside encouragement is an important component of student persistence.

I. Perhaps a portion of the welfare regulations that restricts a recipient's educational choice to a vocational choice or a community college should be changed to allow the individual the opportunity of attending a 4-year college since the present regulations might be considered to be analogous to a caste system which severely restricts the options of many individuals.

Please see attached.

V. The next meeting is scheduled for December 7, 1989 at 3:00p.m., Co. 202

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

A. Martin, Chair