

MINUTES

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

September 7, 2023

The Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management Committee of the University of Southern Indiana Board of Trustees met on Thursday, September 7, 2023, in the Griffin Center on campus. Present were Committee Chair Christina M. Ryan, and Trustees W. Harold Calloway, and Jeffrey L. Knight. Trustee Kenneth L. Sendelweck '76 was absent. Also in attendance were President Ronald S. Rochon, Interim Provost Shelly B. Blunt, Vice President for Strategic Enrollment Management Troy A. Miller, Vice President for Student Affairs Khalilah T. Doss, and Vice President for Marketing and Communication Kindra L. Strupp M'22.

Chair Ryan called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

1. IMPROVING STUDENT RETENTION THROUGH DATA ANALYTICS UPDATE

Chair Ryan called on Dr. Shelly Blunt, Interim Provost, and Mr. Troy Miller, Vice President for Strategic Enrollment Management, to provide an update on a project called "Improving Student Retention Through Data Analytics." Dr. Blunt provided a brief history of Lilly Foundation, Inc.'s initiative *Charting the Future for Indiana's Colleges and Universities* beginning in 2019. The initiative has three phases and USI is currently in the third phase. Phase III is a partnership with five other Indiana universities in which four goals and objectives were established to improve student retention and graduation rates. Dr. Blunt explained the strategies identified to achieve the goals, and how the results are used to identify students who are at risk of leaving USI. Dr. Blunt introduced Mr. Troy Miller to examine the results of the qualitative study completed by The Farnsworth Group.

Mr. Miller discussed the key factors that influenced a student's school choice, the perceptions of USI's performance, the perceived value of a USI education, and lastly, the student's reasons for not returning. He explained the demographics of the students included in the qualitative study, noting it was a small sample. USI expects the quantitative portion of the study will yield a larger demographic distribution. Mr. Miller concluded the report by noting the next steps and providing ideas on how to make the quantitative study more inclusive to obtain greater insight into students' decision-making processes.

2. INTRODUCTION OF NEW ACADEMIC LEADERS

Chair Ryan called on Dr. Blunt to introduce Dr. Julie McCullough, Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, and Dr. William Elliott, Interim Dean of the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education to share the vision for their respective colleges.

Dr. McCullough began by providing a brief history of her relationship with USI, her accomplishments as department chair, and how she arrived in her current role. She provided a snapshot of the students enrolled in the college, the number of faculty to support the programs offered, and the credentialing exam pass rates of students. Dr. McCullough concluded by stating her vision for the college is one that strengthens collaborative partnerships, elevates the visibility and reputation of all CNHP programs, increases alumni engagement with students, and increases student enrollment.

Dr. Elliott provided the committee with his educational background and his service history at USI. His vision for the Pott college revolved around the pillars of innovation, inclusivity, and impact in the evolving world. The college wants its graduates to be the change makers who drive progress in their communities and beyond. To achieve this vision, the college will focus on creating a supportive learning environment for students by recruiting experts in their fields who are dedicated to teaching and research. The Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education will continue to strengthen collaborations with industry leaders, government agencies, and other educational institutions to create research and internship opportunities for students.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.