

DEDICATE TO GRADUATE

Retention and Persistence Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2021

<https://fsw.zoom.us/j/82124052656>

Dr. Amy Trogan	Present	Dr. Joseph van Gaalen	Present
Andrae Jones	Present	Keith Martin	Present
Angie Snyder	Absent	Kim Turano	Absent
Dr. April Ring	Present	Vanessa Mayse	Present
Dr. Christy Gilfert	Present	Linda Johnsen	Absent
Cindy Quehl	Present	Monica Moore	Present
Dr. Deborah Teed	Absent	Sabine Eggleston	Present
Dr. George Harvey	Present	Dr. Thomas Rath	Present
Helen Bend	Present	Whitney Rhyne	Present

Good News – My Math Lab

The committee started with good news from Professor Sabine Eggleston. Professor Eggleston worked with Pearson Education, the company that provides the MyLab/My Math Lab product that the majority of math classes at FSW utilize as a required component of the course. Professor Eggleston was able to secure 170 free codes to distribute to students in need of the Pearson My Math Labs access. Professor Eggleston, Assistant Dean Snyder, and Director Rhyne met to create a plan to disseminate My Math Lab codes to students in need.

Student Withdraw Data

The committee reviewed student withdraws data from fall 2020 prepared by the Office of Strategic Initiatives with local data provided by Institutional Research. During the fall semester, 3,247 withdrawals from 2121 unique individuals ranged in age from 16-71. 63% were female. The proportion of students who withdraw by race/ethnicity follow that of FSW's overall

population. The number one reason students noted for withdrawing was Personal (38%), followed by academic difficulty (30%), and employment (11%).

BSC, MAT, MAC, ENC, and CHM are the course subjects with the highest number of withdraws.

Within the MAT prefix, MAT 1033 had the highest number of withdraws (249), followed by MAT 0057 (41), and MAT 1100 (39). Academic difficulty (40%) was noted as the main reason for withdrawing from courses within the MAT prefix. The instructor was noted as the reason for withdrawing by 6% of students who withdrew from a class with a MAT prefix. Of the students who cited instructor as the reason for withdrawing, they were distributed among 20 different instructors.

Within the ENC course prefix, ENC 1101 had the greatest number of withdraws with 177, followed by ENC 1102 with 73 withdraws. The number one reason noted they withdrew from ENC courses was personal (37%).

Within the SLS course prefix, SLS 1515 has the greatest number of withdraws with 133. The greatest reason for students' withdraw was personal (44%).

Additional data is provided in the attached slides.

The committee entered into discussion, Dr. April Ring noted the importance of continuing the start of term survey and outreach to help support students succeed. Prof. Eggleston discussed support for the underprepared students. Director Monica Moore talked about intervention and an online tool kit to support students. Dr. Tom Rath talked about students most at risk and improving equity through support. Dr. Rath asked about a culture of withdraw. Dr. Joseph van Gaalen noted some faculty actively and regularly encourage withdraw, commented on the impact of withdrawing on financial aid, and noted no intervention before students withdraw. Director Keith Martin, noted there might be individual students who have a habit or culture of withdrawing but does not believe FSW at large has a culture of withdraw.

The committee wanted to see if the students who withdraw in the fall took the class again in the spring and how they did. Director Moore wanted to see if the students who noted academic difficulty as the reason for withdrawal did indeed use the Academic Support Center before withdrawing. Dr. Christy Gilfert thought it would be interesting to see the withdraws by modality. The committee also wanted to know the withdraws as a % of enrollment. Director Rhyne will work to provide that data at the next committee meeting.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Whitney Rhyne.