Student Support Services Work Group

July 28, 2016 1:30-3:00 pm
Northern Illinois University, Lowden Hall, Room 304
Call in Number – 815-753-0019

Attendees: Marilyn Bellert (NIU), Amy Jo Clemens (NIU), Amy Franklin (NIU), Debbie Pixton (NIU), Donna Schoenfeld (NIU), Eric Weldy (NIU)

Notes

- Strengthen data sharing and use across institutions in coordination with the Illinois Longitudinal Data System.
  - NIU’s 2015 Transfer Student Survey Report was distributed
  - Further work with the ILDS is on hold until ILDS reports are distributed

- Determine most meaningful ways to support and maintain an ongoing connection among professionals who support peer mentoring programs
  - Conference
    - Secured a keynote – Michelle Bringas at NIU; will bring students for testimonials
    - Tentative agenda in place
    - Next steps: secure students for the fish bowl; finalize flyer, agenda, and registration
    - Will be considering how to engage participants beyond the conference
  - Research
    - Results and possible follow up questions in report from John Cowan
    - Overview of the report will be distributed to CEOs on Sept. 8 and to conference participants
    - Need to create a place on the website for peer mentoring research including the literature review
  - Issue: Is this an area we want to continue to focus on in the future?

- Collaborate with ISAC, Econ Illinois, and other interested partners in developing a plan to increase the FAFSA completion rate by high school students in the region.
  - FAFSA Completion Report with complete FY16 data is available
  - Next steps
    - Crosswalk FAFSA completion dates with college going rates
    - Disseminate the report to Network high school superintendents
    - NIU will share this document with counterparts at community colleges and with high school counselors who attend the summit this fall to get their feedback
  - Prepared to Thrive (tentative title) Guide for Communities to Cultivate a Focus on College and Career Readiness
    - With the graphic designer now
    - Consider targeting communities with low FAFSA completion and college going rates as pilot sites for implementation/facilitated work
- Request help from CGS to create a proposed budget, timeline, etc. for pilot implementation to receive grant funding
- Resend to the work group, selected invested participants in the Network, Sam Nelson (ISAC), and Jon Furr, and ask for feedback on the content by August 10
- Parent University pilot being conducted this year as a community development project in Sycamore, DeKalb, and Rochelle focused on helping parents learn to navigate educational systems and advocate for their children while addressing communication, cultural issues, and personal development

- Next Steps
  - Next meeting - August 15, 2:30 – 4:00 pm, Lowden Hall 304
  - Finalize agenda, create a flyer, and activate registration for the peer mentoring conference
  - Crosswalk FAFSA completion rates with college going rates
  - Distribute draft of Prepare to Thrive document for feedback by August 10

**Meeting materials**
Documents related to this topic are posted (or will be posted) online at [www.niu.edu/p20network](http://www.niu.edu/p20network). Click on the Work Groups tab and then on the Student Support Services Work Group under Meetings and Materials. Feel free to send links to other documents that you recommend for this group to Debbie Pixton (dpixton@niu.edu).

**Location and Parking**
Lowden Hall (across from the castle building) is on the south side of the College Drive cul-de-sac and a 5 minute walk from Visitors Parking. Free parking is available in the Visitors Lot south of the Holmes Student Center. Tell the attendant that you are attending a P-20 Network meeting, so that you are not charged.

**Goal:** Coordinate student support systems across institutions to ease transitions and increase success.

**2016 Objectives and Deliverables**
- Strengthen data sharing and use across institutions in coordination with the Illinois Longitudinal Data System.
  - List metrics and purposes for additional data collection.
  - Report progress on the development and implementation of the action plan.
- Determine most meaningful ways to support and maintain an ongoing connection among professionals who support peer mentoring programs
  - Report on results of the conference and make recommendations for any next steps.
  - Report data on the needs of facilitators and participants in peer mentoring programs and make recommendations for next steps.
- Collaborate with ISAC, Econ Illinois, and other interested partners in developing a plan to increase the FAFSA completion rate by high school students in the region.
Present plan for consideration by local schools, community colleges, and community agencies.