WSU Academic Affairs

2015-16 GOALS & COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH ACHIEVING THOSE GOALS
Goal One

IMPROVE GRADUATION RATES BY ESTABLISHING A MORE PROACTIVE, MORE OBVIOUS “CULTURE OF COMPLETION” ACROSS CAMPUS
I.1 Components of a Culture of Completion

- Make Orientation mandatory for first-time, full-time students at WSU; fill current sessions to capacity; add at least one more session
- Include “confidence building” video;
- Cost: $24K
1.2 Degree Maps

- Ensure that all programs have degree maps. Currently, ~38 programs do so; ~200 need to complete maps.
- Cost: personnel time.
1.3 Early Alert Referral System

- Last year, faculty and staff referred 1,038 students to EARS, the Early Alert Referral System.
- This coming year, Academic Affairs will publicize the availability of EARS, thereby increasing the system’s use.
- Cost: materials and time associated with PR and marketing. $5,000
1.4 Personally contact students close to graduation

- Provide advisors and faculty members with contact info on students who are within two semesters’ of completion.
- Establish incentives for timely completion.
- Cost: preparation and personal contact time; whatever incentives we offer.
1.5 Summer Scholarships for those close to graduation

- Offer the 120 students who have completed 70 to 74% of their requirements (and completed at least 70% of their major) a scholarship for summer tuition to graduate by summer’s end.

- Cost: $267,335; or half tuition = $133,663.
1.6 Make ‘student success’ part of faculty hiring

- In both application documents and candidate visits, include questions about candidates’ commitment to student retention and completion.

- Cost: time associated with establishing these practices as part of the hiring process.
Goal Two

ANALYZE AND REMEDY BOTTLENECKS THAT STOP STUDENTS ON THE PATH TOWARD COMPLETION
2.1 Quantitative Literacy

- Work with new High School Math requirements, Developmental Math, General Education committees, and Math faculty to determine reasonable pathways for student success in quantitative literacy. Hire four Science/Math Education faculty.

- Cost: much time, energy, blood, and $400,000.
2.2 Summer Bridge Course

- Especially for students who are not college-math-ready, offer an intensive summer bridge class.
- Cost: pilot program with class of 30, covering tuition & fees, books, instructor = $40,000.
Goal Three

EMPLOY PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS TO IDENTIFY STUDENTS WHO MAY BENEFIT FROM INTERVENTIONS TO HELP GET THEM TO COMPLETION.
3.1 Gather the data

- Make use of admissions data we currently have to discern patterns of need.
- Cost: time from data personnel.
3.2 Provide necessary intervention

- Address those needs with additional support resources (advising, FYE, small classes, etc.)
- Cost: support personnel; peer mentors = $100K.
Goal Four

DEPARTMENTAL LEADERSHIP
4.1 Empower chairs to lead

- Encourage creativity and change, especially with respect to curriculum and pedagogical practices.
- Foster more connections among chairs through periodic gatherings.
- Increase chair stipends.
- Cost: $124,440
Goal Five

MEET WITH ALL DEPARTMENTS TO GET A SENSE OF STRENGTHS AND AREAS NEEDING DEVELOPMENT
Meeting with departments

- The Provost will meet with each academic department in the university by the end of spring 2016.
- After this round of meetings, the Provost will develop a list of commendations and recommendations.
- Cost: time