

Montana Association of Collegiate Registrars & Admissions Officers
Fall 2006 Meeting Minutes
Dawson CC & Miles CC

Thursday, October 25, 2006 – Dawson CC

Deana McNabb, Association President opened the meeting with a welcome and introduction to those present.

Campuses provided updates for Fall 2006 and FTE figures.

The June 2006 meeting with IACRAO was discussed. All agreed it was a great success and MACRAO would be willing to hold additional joint meetings in the future.

Deana McNabb reported on retention data for Montana. Dickinson State enrolls highest number of Montana students followed by NW College and Gonzaga University. By 2018, we can expect a 10%-35% drop in students. The social, cultural and economic realities that students face today contribute to higher attrition rates.

Deana led a discussion on various topics:

- BOR transfer policies – There still is a perception problem in the state regarding the transfer of credits between the MUS schools. Unfortunately, the involvement of faculty has made transfer worst – i.e., minimum grade policy. Chuck Nelson encouraged members “not to be silent” as a strategy in overcoming this perception. It was also mentioned that some high school counselors do not understand the difference between general ed core vs. major core.
- Non-accredited institutions – Some campuses have a petition process for the transfer student or students can take the CLEP exam or challenge a course. The ability to benefit (ACT, SAT, GED, etc) is used for non-accredited high schools and homeschooled students.
- MUS Scholarship – The ranking formula for who can apply has changed: $GPA \times 8 + ACT/SAT$ scores.
- E-Distance Learning - A system wide proposal would impact those campuses with online programs already in place. Campuses would face the challenge of different add/drop dates, fee structure, sharing of applications and transcripts, etc.
- Single Admissions File – Campuses reported they have no resources to implement the policy.
- Imaging – The Registrar’s Office at MSU-Bozeman is moving to this and eventually will migrate to daily business – i.e., Admissions Office.

The group met at the Cattle-Ac in Miles City for dinner.

Friday, October 26, 2006 – Miles CC

Roger Barber gave an update from OCHE:

- The Provisionally Work Group for the new Writing requirement is meeting next week to discuss the language of provisional admission, how long students can remain on provisional status and how students with no writing score will be handled.

- The Remedial Education Work Group examined Math and English courses and found significant discrepancies particularly in Math. Only two year campuses can offer remedial courses and receive general fund monies. The group will share information with K-12 to determine how prepared students are to enter college.
- Transferability – A one-time only budget request is still pending in the Governor’s Office. This will fund faculty councils and a database.
- The Regents established a General Ed Council to adopt operational rules for the MUS core – i.e., one course must have Native American content. A list is being developed of courses that would satisfy this requirement on each campus.
- A college prep list was distributed for review. Input on which form is more useful should be directed to Jean Horvath at OCHE.
- Assessment Process – Campuses will be expected to provide data on how they are meeting the new transfer deadlines – is this something that campuses will be able to produce?
- Writing Proficiency – It was reported that high school counselors are still confused on the new standard. Some schools are not participating in the MUS Writing Assessment and plan to only use the ACT/SAT in the future.
- Diploma Mills – The first step would be to contact the Consumer Affairs Office.

Tyler Trevor from OCHE presented an update on current projects:

- Dept of Labor – exchanging records to track students into the workplace.
- Proposal to track transfer of students from the two year campuses into the 4 year schools.
- Priority to keep the website updated.

Tyler’s goal is to begin sharing statewide reports. Data on persistence in the MUS system was distributed. He polled the group to determine when the best time to extract graduation data is. Trevor also reported that ethnicity codes are changing effective 2009 and Banner/IPEDS will need to be changed.

MACRAO Business Meeting

- The Treasurer’s report (minutes of Spring 06 and finance report) was reviewed and approved by the membership.
- MSU-Billings was selected as the site for the Spring 2007 meeting to be held March 29 & 30, 2007. UM-Western will host the Fall 2007 meeting tentatively scheduled for Oct 25-26.

Members thanked Dawson CC and Miles CC for hosting the Fall 2006 meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by: Lou Laakso, Treasurer