Time: 11:00 a.m.
Location: CAS Conference Room, 140 KFA
Present: Fernando Delgado, Michael Harris, Jim Madsen, Mike Miller, David Trechter, Tynan Heller, Kurt Leichtle, Michael Stifter, Steven Kelm, Gregg Heinselman
Absent: Mark Meydam, Hossein Eftekari, Stacey Stoffregen, Brian Schultz

Agenda Items
1. Update on early alert system.
2. Update on final report out to campus

Update on early alert system
- Delgado distributed the MAP-Works Frequently Asked Questions, which he indicated was a subset of a 15-page presentation to the Academic/Student Affairs group.
- Last spring several campuses were looking at solutions for an early alert system. Madison developed software and is willing to sell it, but it is expensive. Milwaukee, Oshkosh and Whitewater are already using MAP-Works; Stout will be starting a pilot program.
- MAP-Works (M-W) is a software program which allows students to create profiles; faculty, Financial Aid, the Registrar’s Office, etc. can then send communications. M-W also creates a dashboard. This can be triggered from the students’ first day on campus, or even when first admitted.
- A request has been included in the next budget to acquire M-W next year. The cost is $28,000 - $36,000 (as opposed to approximately $64,000 for the software from Madison).
- Initially key departments would be targeted (English, Math, Biology, Chemistry?)—those which touch the largest number of students in their first year.
- M-W is an early diagnosis tool which can be used to catch at-risk students, even before mid-semester.

Discussion:
- Would there be indicator check boxes (e.g., missing assignments, attendance)? Faculty don’t have enough time to enter comments for large groups of students.
- Is it possible to integrate with D2L workbooks?
  - Possibly; System is piloting a project with a D2L product.
- Do we have an estimate of the cost of losing a student?
  - It might be helpful in motivating people to use a tool such as M-W, if they can see just how important it is.
- Having something like this available might prompt faculty to start taking attendance early and offer early assignments. It might also be helpful to know if students are
working off-campus.

- It is easier to predict success than failure.
- What instrument allows you to see what students expect of themselves?
- It would be interesting to pilot the program for a period of time and record the number of students who were lost during that time and of that number, how many were considered at-risk students.
- M-W will be piloted for the next three years.
  - Students will be able to update profiles as needed.
  - Success will require both faculty and students to engage. The program allows both to see all dimensions.
  - M-W is an aggregating tool.
- It might be helpful to use clickers; makes it possible to get better feedback.
- Most faculty have never been in a position where there are not enough students. This could be an incentive for faculty to spend time to get information.
- Students who are in the most danger of not returning generally require the most time from faculty.
- What classes are freshman in their first and second semesters?
  - English, Speech—maybe not Chemistry?
- Most Animal Science students are pre-Vet and do take Chemistry.
- We can pull data showing freshman classes with the highest enrollment.
- Typically we are good at collecting data, but lousy at acting on it.
  - M-W is not a data warehouse; basically it is a Cloud and a communication tool.
- Who will be the point-of-service person?
  - There will be multiple areas: Residence Life, Registrar’s Office, Academic Services, etc.
- We have a financial stake in students’ success. We are currently involved in applying for System grants, which could fund a project lead and implementation. Next year we will have two pre-major advisers in the Academic Success Center. M-W profiles will allow us to focus on at-risk students and also allow us to track the reasons students are leaving.
- Will we be tracking data points of engagement? These are as important as ACT scores or rank in class.
- Students come prepared to succeed. We are not tracking what happens when they get here.
- Implementation is where we are most likely to fail. When students are assigned to a specific academic adviser/coach, it makes a difference. If responsibility for students is too widely dispersed, we will fail.
- M-W is a diagnostic tool to be used by coaches. It will be better to have students working with faculty associated with their majors.
- The goal of using M-W is:
  - Not to save everybody
  - Increase the five-year graduation rate
  - Increase the retention rate to the mid-80’s
• Are there privacy implications to using M-W?
  o The information available is based on an educational need-to-know.

Delgado stated that he will make a case for using Map-Works to department chairs in March or April. He will send a power point to the committee for feedback, prior to talking to the chairs.

**Update on final report out to campus**
April 26 has been set as the day on which the next strategic plan will be celebrated. The question is how and when to report out on “Living the Promise.” Delgado indicated that he plans to use the original template which stated all the goals and will publish all the efforts which have been accomplished under each goal. Since we don’t want to interfere with the start of the next strategic plan and since the current strategic plan extends through June, he would like to publish the report in early June. It was suggested that the report be written with the next HLC accreditation review in mind (HLC will want contextual materials). Delgado will want the committee to review the report and provide feedback or questions.

**Other Business**
• A committee member asked what was happening with initiatives.
  o Delgado reported that one had been received and a number of others were still expected to be submitted.
• Will new people be putting forth initiatives? There seems to be some difficulty in determining what is expected and what will have university-wide impact.
• The next go-round will focus in collective initiatives.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Julia M. Persico