

VICKI AND WILL STUDENT FOCUS GROUP – COLLEGE RESTRUCTURE FEEDBACK

November 28, 2018 – Student Organization Leaders

Student Attendees: Jermaine, DJ

Notes by: T. Phan

- Prefer the 7 colleges model for the following reasons:
 - Current CPS model is very vague; new model is much more clear
 - Current model is difficult for first-time students to determine which department/college they belong with
 - Easy navigation; would be ideal to have colleges designated to a primary building
 - Explore idea of having concentrated tutoring spaces within these departments/locations in addition to Tutoring Center on 2nd floor of JSSB

- Questions?
 - What are the ramifications to college deans with this new change?
 - With this change, will opinions with one group outweigh opinions of others?
 - Suggestion: Also include feedback from departments/colleges who are not impacted with this change.

- Other suggestions not related to college restructure: need classes available when you need them, especially for students who work FT jobs during the day.

VICKI AND WILL STUDENT FOCUS GROUP – COLLEGE RESTRUCTURE FEEDBACK

November 29, 2018 – Peer Mentors

Attendees: 18 Attendees

Notes by: T. Phan

- Prefer the 7 colleges model for the following reasons:
 - Currently, a majority of first-time students do not understand which college/department they belong to. They specifically do not understand what CPS or CLAS really means. With this change, students may be able to better understand what programs are offered at MSU Denver.
 - Easier to navigate; the path from start to finish will not be so clustered.
 - Location of departments/colleges will be more defined.
 - Suggestion: Strengthen communication between departments and colleges.
 - The new model will be beneficial for potential employer recruiters as it will be clearer as to which department they need to work closely with.
 - Concern: Will this new change be less accessible to certain student populations? This new model may not work for all students; it depends on the student's personality and how they will perceive this (e.g. transfer students).
 - Suggestion: Can a BETA test be developed so that degrees are arranged in the system both ways so that students can determine which model works best for them?

- Questions?
 - Currently, it seems like the different schools/colleges are already competing as there is no synergy in between—will this help deter from that or will it amp up the competitiveness?
 - Is there evidence to demonstrate that this change will be beneficial to students/University?
 - Will this impact/increase student tuition?
 - Does the University plan on making this transition in sequential phases? Likewise, are certain colleges prioritized based on student demand?
 - What is the typical number of colleges at each University?
 - Are there statistics that will indicate that this change will increase competitiveness?
 - How many more positions will need to be created and what how does that affect compensation?

- Prompt: If MSU Denver was given 1 million dollars, what would you purchase?
 - New desks
 - PE Building upgrade including safety/risk assessment on buildings
 - More resources for part-time students (e.g. scholarships, programs)
 - Deter malicious individuals from campus including individuals who are not students, staff, or faculty
 - Specialized advisors
 - Transcript evaluators
 - Strengthening communication between CCD, MSU Denver and CU Denver
 - Invest in a more user-friendly online platform for online courses

VICKI AND WILL STUDENT FOCUS GROUP – COLLEGE RESTRUCTURE FEEDBACK

December 4, 2018 – CESA

Attendees: 9 Attendees

Notes by: A. Sanders

Prefer the 7 Colleges Model for the following reasons:

- Would be easier to tell Veterans when they call in what college/school they are looking for. It will be easier to understand.
- Advising should be cleared up. History major advising screwed up the education track.
- Confusing with Human Performance & Sport advising.
- Bounced around with advisors within the College of Business. Having an entrepreneurship advisor would be helpful. Size of college doesn't have an impact.
- Quality of assistance from advisors matters.
- There seems to be a lack of resources for advisors. Has to plan at least 4-6 weeks in advance to schedule a meeting.
- Frustrated by the negative way MSU Denver is portrayed in the community and state.
- All students voted to go with the seven college's model.
- Questioned the funding and resources.

If we had \$1 million, where would you put the money?

- More teachers
- Allocate to teachers, faculty and staff for advising and dean's offices, student services for retaining and graduating students of color.
- Supporting services for student success for students of color. Fund CESA more.
- Supporting diverse students
- Veteran's services needs more money and space
- Need advisors and teachers

Will send college information chart to Amber to distribute to the students.

VICKI AND WILL STUDENT FOCUS GROUP – COLLEGE RESTRUCTURE FEEDBACK

December 5, 2018 – SGA

Attendees: 9 Attendees

Notes by: A. Sanders

Discussion on seven college model:

- Consensus of group was supportive of seven college model
- Provides a clearer path for students and leaves out guesswork and will increase retention and graduation rates
- Students will know what college they are part of
- Easier to understand other departments
- Concerned about needing more space
- How can it be proved that this structure will be successful? Concerned about hiring costs.

\$1 million question

- Repair the gym, invest more in facilities
- Bike shop program
- Accommodations for service animals when there are longer classes
- Support services, tutors for higher levels, advisors
- Attract next level of faculty – weed out bad ones
- Continue to stay unique
- Community – places for students to hang out – there should be more than one
- Doesn't think the college itself makes an impact; strong department affiliation
- Difficult for community without dorms
- Discussion on introductory class for the university
- Problems with transferring classes
- Advising – program where students explore their interests/strengths and see where they may fit
- Window tint on the old buildings – window cleaning
- A lot of areas are dirty – bad for new students
- Text facility problems like in an airport
- Have an appreciation function for AHEC and then give them suggestions on improvements
- Digital hubs throughout buildings
- MSU app should be updated

VICKI AND WILL STUDENT FOCUS GROUP – COLLEGE RESTRUCTURE FEEDBACK

December 12, 2018 – Student Athletes

Attendees: 5 Attendees

Notes by: T. Phan

- MSU Denver Experiences
 - Student is a biology major/chemistry minor with pre-med track: trying to find the original path was difficult. Went to department advising initially and then self-advised since then; utilized a hard-copy of degree pathway to select courses.
 - Student registered late and took general studies first semester; since then used Degree Progress Report to self-advise. Did not have contact with any college.
 - International student is studying business/finance, did not meet with an advisor—self-advised via Degree Progress plan.
 - Student did not know that she was a part of CPS, first appointment with advisor took forever.
 - Transfer student met with head advisor for CRJ and it was pretty smooth process.

- What role should a college play in your MSU Denver experience? No response.

- What do you identify more as: athlete or something else?
 - Baseball is a hobby at this point, so I am focusing on my identity via my career track.
 - Student would identify more as an athlete—easier to have conversations wearing athletic gear vs. college of business shirt.

- If MSU Denver was given 1 million dollars, what would you purchase?
 - Free/cheaper parking
 - Available and affordable living options
 - Remove modular classrooms
 - More tutoring/specialized tutoring

- What do we need to fix?
 - Suggestion: Develop a website for potential/current students to connect with alumni to ask questions about folks that work in the field—mentorship program.
 - More advanced classes should have more professors/class offerings (e.g. students' graduation are delayed due to this)

- What do you love about MSU? Hate about MSU?
 - Love: diversity, appropriate class sizes which lead to a better relationship with professors.
 - Hate: People don't know that an athletics program exists.
 - Suggestions: Better promote attendance at games, provide opportunities/events for student athletes and other students to mix and mingle.