

Monthly Meetings

Faculty _____ Instructional Council _____ Division Chairs _____

Standing Committee ____ **QEP** ____ Insti. Effec. _____ Division Meeting _____

Proposal Writing _____ Freshman Composition Cluster _____

Date: Thursday, January 28th, 2021 at 11:00 am. On Zoom.

Convener: Dean Anthonia Adadevoh, Convener

Members Attended: Kerry Brackett, Mohit Anand, Shelja Anand, Tenir Gumbs, Misty McFadden, Jacqueline Miller, Melvin Chappell, Carle Underwood, Ina-Mae Sher, Xanthia Crook, Patience Daniels, Miquelle Jones, Yoruba Marshall, Courtney Sankey, Jeanette Bender

Main Issues of Business

Yoruba Marshall provided the meditation for the meeting.

Patience Daniels motioned for the December 2020 meeting minutes for adoption. Miquelle Jones second the motion. The committee approved the December 2020 meeting minutes.

Dean Anthonia Adadevoh reiterated that retention was on top of the list as far as QEP topics. Because it is a broad topic, there needs to be direction in finding a niche to go along with other initiatives. She also directed the committee in creating questions for the student surveys to be distributed. There are already surveys available for the administration and faculty. The student surveys will be a little different, yet they must be able to encourage 100% participation. No more than 10 questions should be listed in the student surveys. Misty McFadden provided samples of student surveys. Any surveys with more than 10 questions will lose the interest of the intended audience.

Mohit Anand reiterated how the committee had discussed possible QEP topics in previous meetings. Now the next task will be to gather students' opinions. What can we do to help students to become successful? Where do our students need help? The data collected from the student surveys will help in determining the final topic.

Patience Daniels proposed the following questions for the student surveys: Would you like more hands-on learning? Do you need assistance with technology?

Yoruba Marshall asked if the committee will be looking at academic assistance as an area for possible questions.

Dean Adadevoh stated that assistance will be needed from all departments to consider improvements for the whole student experience.

Mohit Anand stated that asking students for certain areas of improvement is most important.

Dean Adadevoh stated that suggestions from all departments should be included before the students can give rankings to the areas of improvement.

Ina-Mae Sher proposed questions for Division of Education students in regard to Praxis II support.

Mohit Anand proposed the question: What other resources do you think can add up to your journey here at Miles College?

Carle Underwood suggested the question: What means do you feel need more focus that are essential to your success at Miles College?

Miquelle Jones suggested the question: What social activities would you like to see on campus while practicing social distancing?

Mohit Anand suggested forming a question about job fairs.

Kerry Brackett suggested a question about graduate exams support and how to apply to graduate school.

Carle Underwood stated that she has access to the dormitory halls and student leaders. For example, Miss Miles wants to start a MCAT Mondays for Biology/Pre-Med majors. There was also discussion about bringing speakers from different fields that have put our academic majors into practice.

Ina-Mae Sher stated that it would be excellent to have a campus license for students to use Praxis resources. They could go to the library and use a password to practice for the exam.

Dean Adadevoh asked about the average students who do not have plans for after graduation. These are the students that need to be kept on track. There are programs available for high-achieving students. Bringing in speakers could be one strategy to help with the total student population.

Courtney Sankey stated that there used to be a fair from years ago that presented all the majors that was offered on campus.

Dean Adadevoh stated that Handshake is another great resource for internships and job placement. However, only 100 students have created a profile. What about the rest of the student population? Are the students really using the resources that are offered on campus? SGA President Jeanette Bender is a great resource, along with the academic advisors as well to provide insight from the student population. The campus is currently offering programs in celebration of Black History Month.

Kerry Brackett provided details about The Living Museum, a virtual performance by the Golden Word Movement that will kick off the Black History Month celebration. Each poet will perform a poem as a historical figure and the audience must guess who it is.

Dean Adadevoh stated that programs such The Living Museum is an example as far as programs/activities that can keep the students engaged.

Patience Daniels suggested the question: What organizations are you a part of? She also stated that students with no leadership skills often do not know how to break out of their shell and become social with other students.

Dean Adadevoh stated that social interaction skills are just as important as the skills learned in the classroom. These skills will make the students more competitive when they apply for jobs later in life. She also asked what type of questions we should ask the students in the surveys.

Tenir Gumbs stated that the Jumpstart students were engaged with the activities on campus, but the participation decreased during current events/issues. She also suggested questions about better serving our virtual students. There are students that want virtual tutoring. What about student engagement after admission to Miles College?

Carle Underwood suggested the question: What skills would you be interested in learning outside of the academic courses?

Courtney Sankey stated that better communication is needed as students are still unaware of everything that is offered on campus.

Miquelle Jones suggested the question: What type of technology do you have access to? Is it helpful for the virtual experience? She stated that around mid-terms, students become disengaged due to their technology.

Melvin Chappell suggested the question: Are you planning to transfer from Miles College? If so, why?

Dean Adadevoh mentioned a current magazine article that discussed innovative ways to engage students. It also illustrated how to assess the student experience. There was information about organizations creating apps to increase student engagement. The goal for Alabama CREATE is for 500,000 Alabama students to enter the workforce.

Jeanette Bender provided information on issues that students were having on campus. One issue at hand was school spirit. She also stated that there is no safe space for only the students. The students want more tables available for student activities such as spades tournaments. Food selection is a big issue as well. Students would like to have different menu options available. Students do not feel comfortable speaking up about the academic programs.

Dean Adadevoh stated that the uniformity of the course shells will come eventually for all courses offered. She asked Jeanette Bender what do the students like as far as virtual events?

Jeanette Bender stated that students are getting weary of virtual events and want more in-person events.

Patience Daniels stated that as far as the food selection, they offered Dining Dollars at the University of Alabama when she attended. Included in the tuition, students can use them at restaurants through partnerships with the college. She suggested a similar program for Miles College with the possible name of Miles Bucks or Bears Bucks. The amount offered can be determined by the administration.

Tenir Gumbs asked if the students can lead the charge in creating more school spirit, including maybe a chant?

Dean Adadevoh asked how students can help us become more innovative in helping them.

Carle Underwood suggested the questions: What are your hobbies? What can you benefit from having a faculty/staff mentor?

Yoruba Marshall suggested a possible book club pilot program. This can start in February and meet monthly on Zoom.

Dean Adadevoh stated there could be panels created to discuss short stories, poetry, etc. She used the poem "Mother to Son" by Langston Hughes as an example.

Xanthia Crook state there is a book activity program in April that students and faculty are invited to.

Mohit Anand and Patience Daniels stated that if there are any more ideas, please email them.

The next meeting will be in February.

Dean Adadevoh adjourned the meeting.