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Academic Success Center Report

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Academic Success Center Report

Submitted by Kathy Albertson

2/28/2001

Question:

Could the senate have an update on the new center? Who will be the director? What will faculty-turned staff be doing in the center?

Rationale:

Even though ASC will be under student affairs, students in Learning Support today, who most probably will still be in it this summer, are asking questions to faculty that we can't answer: how will these students be advised, for instance. This request is just for information so that faculty advisors of learning support student can speak with the new director in order to get clarification before we begin advisement for summer and fall..

Senate Response:

Minutes: 3/27/2001: Dr. Douglas Lange (VPSA) described the process that will lead to the establishment of the Academic Success Center this fall. Eleven faculty members from the Department of Learning Support will be moving to the Academic Success Center.

Starting this past fall, a committee, including Don Brown, Michael Pemberton, Curtis Ricker, Janet O'Brien, Earl Cashon, Susan Braxton, Chris Caplinger, and he met to define the mission of that office, to define the program objectives, and to identify the next logical steps in the creation of an Academic Success Center.

They conducted a review of the literature, did a search for best practices and held focus groups of students and faculty at Georgia Southern. Through this they determined that the purpose of the Center would be to help all students to become independent and collaborative learners, to provide support for those students wanting academic assistance, and generally to aid in the retention of all students by building and maintaining relationships between students and faculty and Student Affairs staff members through referrals, through tutoring and through intentional interventions. The

Center will blend the tasks of tutoring, advising, mentoring, career advising, study group advising, short course and workshop facilitation, and academic assessment all into one to help students get their feet on solid ground so that they can excel in the classroom.

The staff will soon be conducting site visits to the nationally recognized centers at Auburn University, at The University of Georgia, The University of Texas, and Southwest Texas State. The location of the Center will be in the Forest Drive building. The interviews for director and assistant director of the Center were conducted this week and an announcement of their appointment should be made soon.

Finally, in cooperation with Dr. Bleicken, arrangements are being made to cover classes for students continuing in learning support.

Ms. Kathy Albertson (CLASS) asked how the announcement of the appointment of the director and assistant director of the Center would be made. Dr. Lange responded that the announcement would come through normal campus channels after he has had a chance to notify the staff coming into the Center.