AQIP Student Mentoring Committee
Meeting Notes

Project Charge: *The Student Mentoring project will explore, study, and recommend the design of a mentoring program scaled to serve all MCC students and involving the entire campus community.*

January 28, 2016

Location: **Time:**
ML3012   3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Co-Chairs: Joshua Sauvie, Ronda Brinch   **Note Taker:** Amanda Burleson

In Attendance: Amanda Burleson, Janette Cartagena, Nancy Metcalfe, Andretta Newton , Lauren Ruffin, Jennie Welliver, Theron Williams, Amy Witham

Absent: Joi Callahan, Noel Roan

Agenda:
1. Approval of previous Meeting Notes
2. Discuss research of other College's Mentoring Programs & Mission Statements
3. Discuss feedback from Pathways and Conversation Day
4. Begin discussing "Problem Statement" questions.
5. Determine agenda for next meeting.
6. Determine date/time for next meeting.

Consensus Items:
1. The group approved the previous meeting notes, with a correction to the spelling of Amy Witham.
2. The group agreed it would be helpful to have the day's agenda and progress through discussions projected on the white board to maintain focus and direction.
3. Next meeting date will be determined by looking at group members' availability

Assignments/Follow-Up Items:
1. Continue Problem Statement Questions

Notes:
1. Joshua Sauvie began the meeting, welcomed group members, and provided an overview of the meeting's agenda.
2. Group members introduced themselves again as three group members had not been in attendance at the previous meeting.
3. Ronda Brinch announced group member, Amanda Burleson, volunteered to be the group's note-taker.
4. Joshua Sauvie opened the discussion on Research of other College's Mentoring Programs & Mission Statements. (summary below):

    Janette: Provided handouts on Paradise Valley Community College's Peer Mentoring program. Peer mentors earn credits and complete coursework in a peer mentoring class.

Joshua: Research and experience of various colleges and universities, the mentoring programs are peer mentoring, faculty or staff mentoring, or institutional mentoring programs. Michigan State University James Madison College also has its own First-Year Mentoring program in which upperclassmen mentor first year students outside of the classroom environment. Westchester College in New York's mentoring program is through the Counseling department and students can sign-up voluntarily at orientation. Student then matched with faculty member. University of Colorado at Boulder also has a mentoring program, they have mandatory weekly meetings the first few months and then group orientation. The mentors act as guides and introduce them to college life.

Amy: At Michigan State University, they have peer mentoring through the office of student life. Also has experience with student nurse mentoring program at MCC.

Jennie: When my kids were in high school, Davison High School had a peer support program in the counseling and guidance office and the students could see a peer for some issues, but if they had a larger issue then they would be referred to the guidance counselor. MCC is discussing possibility of moving forward with a First Year Experience class; maybe combine mentoring with study skills, note taking and time management.

Amanda: Some schools have broad mentoring programs for any student; others have very specific groups for specific populations. University of Michigan-Flint has a mentoring program for students who have been in foster care. Other schools have programs just for first year students or underrepresented groups.

Ronda: Washtenaw Community College has two models: peer and professional mentoring. They spent a lot of time on the research and development of the program. Programs that have been successful, often wish to share and discuss their projects, what worked for them, what the challenges were, how they implemented the program. We could reach out to the other programs. Also Ferris has a detailed guide book on their mentoring program.

Theron: Completed research on mentoring in general, better grasp on what is considered mentoring, what is the aim of the committee (academic achievement) more familiar with mentoring programs in community.

Lauren: Students frequently come in for help with things not always related to class. Friend's husband is a mentor for youth in the community.

Nancy: involvement of Honors Program. Multiple other programs on campus exist.

5. Identify Area(s) for Improvement Discussion (PDCA Step 1).
    a. Major themes from 2014 College Conversation/Table reports regarding mentoring include:
        1. Peer mentoring for adverse conditions
        2.   Increased emphasis on degree completion through mentoring, civility and on-site advising
        3.   Mentoring/advising at-risk students
        4. Mobilizing Mott Mentors for Student Success, assigning mentor/advisor to circumnavigate barriers to academic success.
    b.   Student Pathways Focus Group and All Student Survey Results:
        Students also feel there is a need for mentoring, may be more likely to complete their degree with additional help from mentors.

6. Begin discussing Problem Statement Questions:
    a. <u>What Challenges Currently Exist</u>?
        1. MCC has no formal program/structure for mentoring students to help students be more successful, retention, and academically.
        2. No formal definition of mentoring on campus. Spots on campus that do it, but no centralized mission statement or group.
        3. Identifying both mentees and mentors.
        4. Too many DIFFERENT students needing mentoring – not a one size fits all.
        5. How to capture those in need?
        6. We only currently help those students
        7. Lack of awareness of staff and faculty on how to handle various circumstances

    b. <u>What is the current perception of the problem?</u>
        1. Students don't know where to go.
        2. Students don't have access to mentors already
        3. Mentoring works

    c. What is the "real" problem?
        1. Getting Students' buy in.
        2. Identifying students who might benefit from mentoring

Agenda for next meeting:
1. Approval of previous Meeting Notes
2. Continue discussing "Problem Statement Questions"
3. Identify potential area(s) for improvement
4. Determine agenda for next meeting.
5. Determine date/time for next meeting.