UW-Stout FOCUS 2015 University Priority

1. University Priority
"What solution are you proposing?"
Develop an action plan for maintaining retention rates at or above targets based on the results from the Retention Return on Investment and Gateway studies, conducted as a follow up to a fall 2009 priority.
Linkage to Strategic Plans: Linkage to enduring goals: Offer high quality, challenging academic programs that influence and respond to a changing society. Preserve and enhance our educational processes through the application of active learning principles. Promote excellence in teaching, research, scholarship and service. x_ Recruit and retain a diverse university population. Foster a collegial, trusting and tolerant campus climate. Provide safe, accessible, effective, efficient and inviting physical facilities. Provide responsive, efficient, and cost-effective educational support programs and services.
Linkage to FOCUS 2015 goals: Advance diversity knowledge, skill sets, and dispositions in students, faculty and staff Expand early and ongoing experiential learning opportunities including undergraduate applied research and entrepreneurshipx_ Develop and execute integrated enrollment management Focus on sustainability: President's Climate Commitment and classroom initiatives
Linkage to action plans: Academic Plan Inclusive Excellence (Equity Scorecard) Climate Action Plan IT Plan Marketing Plan Capital Plan x Division Plans Training and Development Plan High Risk Drinking Prevention Plan AQIP Action Plan

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2. Statement of the Issue:

One to two sentences summarizing the answer to the question: "What issue are you trying to solve?"

Our goal is to increase our retention rates to 74% by 2025. Looking at our Retention Strategies and ROI study one of the Tier 1 strategies that had an impact on retention was students who worked on campus.

3. Action Plan:	Responsible:	Timeline:
"What has to be done for this priority to succeed?"	"Who are the positions or people that will be responsible for each step?"	MUST be specific target completion date.
To create funded first year positions that offer meaningful work opportunities for freshman an implementation team will create a template for supervisors and will market this new program. The implementation team will develop a proposal for this process that would be approved by the Chancellor.	Implementation team	November
Solicit proposals for meaningful work experiences for freshmen using the process identified by the implementation team	Campus-wide	Proposals accepted November through January
Share a resume template and job applications from existing offices for students to develop job seeking skills. Parent newsletter and website will promote working on campus as well as during orientation.	Implementation team; Covenant Coordinator, Dean of Students	November
Implementation team will review applications and approve new positions.	Implementation team	February
Workshops or brown bag seminars for supervisors to understand their role as mentors and importance to retention.	Implementation team; retention committee	March
Develop an evaluation process to track retention rates of student participants and examine associated indicators of student success (for example, GPA, rate of progression to sophomore status)	Implementation team; PARQ office/Applied Research Center	April/May

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4. Implication for Resources:

"What is needed for this priority to succeed?"

(Human, fiscal, physical, other)

\$850 x 100 positions =\$85,000 some of this can be off-set by work study residual funds if the student is eligible for work study positions.

Funds for refreshments at brown bag seminars

Staffing to coordinate?

5. Key Measures of Performance:

It is the expectation that priority owners will be using/maintaining the process measures to assess action plan deployment. At the end of the fiscal year, the Strategic Planning Group will review and discuss the implementation progress and impact.

Process Measures:

Identify no more than two process measures when answering the question:

"What information will be collected to assess successful deployment of the action plan?"

Performance Indicators:

PARQ is responsible for benchmarking overall performance to answer the question:

"What information will be collected to benchmark and measure the priority's success?"