

## **Achieving the Dream Meeting**

**February 22, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.**

### **Room 208 and via Teams**

**In attendance:** Caitlin Boger-Hawkins, Dawn Bryden, Laurie Chancey, Michelle Coach, Amely Cross, Teresa Foley, Angelina Hinojosa, Michele Howard-Swan, Stacey Musulin, Jennifer Meny, Sherry Paquette, Emily Santaniello, Tim St. James, Ed Vaghini, AzJhante White

- I. Prior meeting minutes
  - i. Meeting minutes from December were reviewed and no feedback or edits were provided.
- II. Welcome
  - i. This marks the first ATD of the spring semester. A call for additional members was sent via email in late fall and some additional individuals joined the group: Sherry Paquette, Emily Santaniello, and Joseph Berenguel (will join in the fall semester).
  - ii. Suggestions for the next semester meetings was discussed. The group agreed that 1 p.m. on Tuesday works. An email will be sent to the group with the meeting dates so members can confirm the recommended dates work.
- III. ATD Coach's Visit
  - i. Our college's ATD coaches were scheduled to do conduct a campus-wide 6-hr visit with us this semester. The ATD coaches have provided minimal direction and suggestions regarding the content for this visit. We are struggling with what to include in such a significant time block that will be worth everyone's time.
  - ii. Michelle Coach suggested possibly waiting until the fall semester to have the ATD coaches here so that we could have a more productive visit.
  - iii. Ed asked if our partnership with ATD will differ following the end of our 3-year contract with them in June. Michelle said we are remaining as a participating school, as there has been too much time and work vested in the partnership, but the dynamics of the partnership may differ once we're one college.
  - iv. Amely mentioned that when we first started with ATD when she was the lead, the coaches were very hands on, but that it was apparent that wasn't going to be sustainable and be the expectation going forward. For instance, the group visit they did a couple of years ago with us cost money and wouldn't be something we could regularly repeat.
  - v. Caitlin is an ATD lead on Northwestern's campus and she mentioned they are conducting a virtual visit with their coaches and they are circling back to the equity training question and having further discussions about those concepts and biases.

- vi. Angelina stated that we could potentially plan a homegrown meeting with the campus without the ATD coaches. We will need to be mindful that we want it to be beneficial and worthwhile.

#### IV. ATD Conference

- i. Michele Howard-Swan and Jenn participated in the all-virtual conference last week. This was Michele's second virtual ATD conference and she looks forward to when it can be conducted in person. The conference had some significant themes like building equity bridges, belonging, and inclusion. She enjoyed her sessions, especially the Dream Scholars session (the 'I Am...' poems particularly resonated with many participants), and will share a link to a book that was referenced in one of her sessions called "Caring for Students Playbook".
- ii. Jenn participated in a small handful of sessions that particularly addressed reaching underserved adult learners. She was assured that much of what the other community colleges are doing in other states to help provide access and address gaps for these students is work that we are already doing on our campus (i.e. providing childcare, making transportation accessible, make and build connections with community partners, etc.) A main takeaway from one session was that we need to explore integrating experiential learning for progress toward a credential.

#### V. Review of KPIs

- i. Caitlin showed the group a preview of a few different KPIs for our reference from the 2020-21 academic year. She reminded the group that our numbers can appear skewed at times when the manufacturing population is included or excluded. Sometimes it benefits us when the manufacturing students are included in certain KPI comparisons versus others.
- ii. When comparing Asnuntuck to the other CT community colleges, and to the overall average, Asnuntuck's percentages were fairly strong – even with or without the manufacturing population. For instance, the number of students who completed 30 or more credits in their first year was at 19% - the most across the system. We also ranked highest with retention from fall to spring (72%).
- iii. Caitlin reminded the group that we can take a deeper look at each KPI and look at specific populations or items. The group requested we look at gender, age, and race, particularly for math completion in the first year.

#### VI. Announcements/Updates

- i. Michelle mentioned that one of our current students will be participating on a student panel (#9) for the Appropriations Panel meeting this evening.

Michelle will be sending the meeting link out via email later this afternoon -  
we are encouraged to watch!