**Committee on Retention Efforts (CORE)**

**Meeting Minutes**

**January 9, 2019**

1. **Call to Order**

The Committee on Retention Efforts (CORE) was called to order on January 9, 2019, at

3:00 p.m. in the Student Success Center Classroom 1115 in Ninth Street Hall.

**Members present:** Gurkan Akalin, Cindy Boyer, Austin Cheney, Mona Davenport, Julie Dietz, Joe Eichman (recording secretary), Shelley James, Alexis Jones, Katie Lewandowski, Josh Norman, Catherine Polydore, Karla Sanders, chair, Jody Stone, Ed Treadwell, Tanya Willard

**Members absent:** Vicki Phillips, and Jie Zou.

.

1. **Approval of CORE Minutes- November 28, 2018**

Jody Stone motioned to approve the minutes for the November 28 meeting, and Katie Lewandowski seconded. The motion was approved, with abstentions from Cindy Boyer and Catherine Polydore.

1. **Graduation Rates by Term**

To summarize the discussion from the last meeting, Karla Sanders said that EIU needs to take a serious look at programs for students who do not start in the Fall. Graduation rates for students who start in Spring are much lower than students who start in the Fall. Most students who start in summer are student athletes, and have a built-in support system. The retention rates for spring-starting students are dramatically lower, but that is also partially due to the relatively few students who start in the spring. Any changes in their number can have an outsize reflection in their retention rate. Mona Davenport suggested that for spring-starting students, we might look into mandating they take University Foundations. Julie Dietz suggested the committee take a longer look at who these students are, to better determine what may help them stay. Shelley James said that she will take a closer look at the students, but thought that over half were active-duty military.

1. **Not Registered Update**

Karla Sanders provided the most recent Not Registered data. Financial holds still seem to be the largest factor in students not registering for classes. As of last Friday, there were 36 of the original 150 students remaining on the Verification list. Of those 36, only 13 had active schedules, with most having been dismissed. Josh Norman said that declining financial aid literacy is really hurting our students. A discussion followed about the best way to reach out to these students. Karla Sanders said she will include financial aid information in the Not Registered list and run it earlier, that way advisors and others will have the information to reach out to students earlier. Mandy from Financial Aid will be asked to speak to CORE in February regarding this situation.

1. **Spring Newsletter**

Karla Sanders asked members to think about items for the spring newsletter, with a focus on retention.

1. **Member Updates**

Cindy Boyer reported that more students are on first-time academic warning than in previous years. There are 268 students now on academic warning, with 173 (64%) of them with active schedules.

1. **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 3:58.

*~Minutes submitted Joe Eichman, Recording Secretary*