

11-1-2008

Retention Initiatives

USM Faculty Senate

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Recommended Citation

USM Faculty Senate, "Retention Initiatives" (2008). *Faculty Senate Reports*. Paper 3.
http://aquila.usm.edu/faculty_senate_reports/3

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Outline of Retention Initiatives from USM Retention Summit November 20-21, 2008

Immediate

- Call all freshman who did not register
- Meet with every freshman placed on academic probation
- Create an early alert system
- Faculty forum on student success
- Rigor and academic support needed
- Confront DFW courses
- Create an advising committee
- Add 1 retention strategy for each department/college
- Answer Center
- Retention Committee

Fall Initiatives

- Profile of incoming class session during faculty welcome back
- Pilot learning communities connecting two courses with a shared theme or FYE and one other course. Require for a target population such as all students with a 2.5 hs gpa or below
- Expand early alert process
- Pilot a new advising program within a college
- Move all support services out of colleges and under one large student success umbrella
- Build on traditions
- Redesign three barrier courses
- Summer quality service program
- Expanded parent programs and connection opportunities
- Diversity understanding processes added to residences

Long Term

- Create 100 level intro courses for every major/program
- Advising
- Financial
- Suitcase College Mentality
- Housing / Community Development
- FYE
- Transfer Orientation/Seminar
- Tradition of intrusion
- Return to Southern Miss values/culture as outlined in dialogues
- Initiatives outlined in Strategic Enrollment Plan