Retention Initiatives

USM Faculty Senate

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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