Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Undergraduate Outcomes Assessment Committee (UOAC) Meeting #7 Minutes
Date: Tuesday November 28thth, 2023
Location: ZOOM meeting

Present: Doug Petkie (Chair, PH), Destin Heilman (CAP, CBC), Chrys Demetry (MCTL), Kent Rissmiller (Provost's Office – Global School), Courtney Kurlanska (DIGS), Melissa Leahy (Office of Strategic Initiatives), Soroush Farzin (CEE)

1. Called the Meeting to order at 1:02 PM
2. Rachel LeBlanc and Emily Perlow are guests today, presenting on the Enrolled Student Survey. This is an overview of key information that was presented. Below is a brief summary of the content.
   a. 41% of undergrads took the survey.
      i. Slightly oversampled for females.
      ii. Representative of population.
      iii. Under sampled for international students and student athletes.
   b. 40% of students working in addition to going to school most less than 10 hpw> Transfer students 30hpw
   c. Increase in atheism.
   d. Only 68% identify as 'straight'
   e. Overall satisfaction 80% satisfied – decline from 2019 88% MIT also saw decline, but something that needs to be watched
      i. US non-residents went from 4% to 13% as unsatisfied may have been pandemic related
   f. 85% Would choose WPI again- unchanged
   g. Learning Outcomes
      i. Little progress recognized by students in writing, ethical awareness and culture awareness. Chrys commented that these are all 'across the curriculum components'. There was a question as to whether the committee should disaggregate this data by group. Chrys also asked if there was a way to see multiple years of data in one display.
      ii. Discussion of disclosed disabilities students. Chrys suggested that adopting a universal design for learning approach would benefit them as well as all students. Overall students with disabilities are a bit less positive about their experience. About 1/3 of the student population reports a disclosed disability. Attending to this population might make a difference to the overall population numbers. How do we make content more accessible for neurodivergent population.
   h. Academic Climate
      i. Availability of courses is a major concern
         1. The smaller the department the bigger the impact
      ii. Lack of social spaces
      iii. Not upset with growing class size

  iv. Content with facilities
  v. Satisfied with faculty ability and climate overall
    1. Those with non-traditional gender roles do not feel the same level of inclusion
    2. Those with disability have lower ratings than the general population as well.
    3. Improvement from 2019 with experience of faculty advisor, but there is still room for improvement- Just in time advisor training
    4. Transfer students do not feel the same support as non-transfer students
  vi. Campus Life
    1. Availability of social space low ranking
    2. Food services increased in satisfaction
    3. 79% belong to a club or organization
    4. Uninvolved students have lowest levels of belonging and community
    5. Students feel safe on campus and trust their friends
    6. Students don't know who to contact if they have a complaint
      a. Report that they don't think the university would take a sexual assault report seriously or a bias report seriously.
    7. Student emotional and well-being is not seen as a priority
  vii. Flourishing, Sense of Community, Belongingness and Self Efficacy scales as part of the survey
    1. Athletes and Greek Life students seem to be scoring higher than the general population.
    2. Students with no co-curriculars are along the bottom
    3. Trans and non-binary are also on the lower end of these scales
  viii. Health and Wellbeing
    1. Of those accessing services there is pretty high satisfaction
    2. Finances & future plans are areas of stress
    3. Managing workload is lower form of stress
    4. 10% of students have food insecurity (Money and Time are seen as the constraints on this)
    5. Students feeling overwhelmed, but have declined
    6. Students with disabilities often feeling overwhelmed
    7. Seeing success in supporting black students to grow community.

i. Discussion of ESS
  i. Doug commented that one resource that might be useful is a departmental inclusivity statement.
  ii. Emily commented on two areas where we as a committee would be most useful:
    1. What can we do to measure outcomes in a programmatic way?
    2. How can we improve the climate for students with disabilities and non-traditional gender roles.

3. Meeting ended at 1:58