



SPARC

October 8, 2019
3:00 p.m., UC 202C

Meeting Summary

In Attendance:

Jim Bachmeier
Jason Bentley
Mike Berghoef
Megan Biller
Paul Blake
Terri Cook
David Damari
Jennifer Dirmeyer
Steve Durst
Dave Eisler
Allyson Faulkner
Jodi Gardei
Lincoln Gibbs
Amy Greene
Kristi Haik
Mike Hughes
Rodney Larson
Beth Logan
Alex Manga
Suzanne Miller

Kristy Motz
Dave Nicol
David Pilgrim
Joy Pulsifer
Steve Reifert
Angela Roman
Julie Rowan
Kristen Salomonson
Mandy Seiferlein
Kasey Thompson
Spence Tower
Dan Wanink
Jeanine Ward-Roof
Sue Waters
Trinity Williams
Gregory Zimmerman

Chair Spence Tower greeted SPARC members and introduced the meeting's topic of retention. Presentations will be given by Kristen Salomonson and Joy Pulsifer, followed by Paul Blake and Jason Bentley.

Retention

Kristen Salomonson and Joy Pulsifer's presentation focused on why students come to Ferris and the most common factors on why they leave. Some of the top reasons students pick Ferris is the ability to complete 2 – 3 years at a Community College, ability to use TIP funding, affordability, good choice of Associate degrees, feeling of belonging, jobs on campus and proud to be a Bulldog. Top reasons they leave are financial issues, family problems or personal obligations and that they never planned to earn their degree at Ferris, they always planned to transfer. The also reviewed some factors that contribute to attrition between years one and two, two and three and three and four. With the data collected we

can focus attention on some of these issues and hopefully make an impact on the retention of students in these groups. A link to the presentation can be found [here](#).

Jason Bentley's presentation focused on a framework for a Student Success and Retention Plan. This framework is the starting point for discussions to collect input from constituents to create and adopt a plan that can be embraced by the entire campus. This is an important initiative of the new Strategic Plan. A link to the presentation can be found [here](#).

Chair Tower adjourned the meeting

Adjourned: 4:47 pm

Next meeting: November 12, 2019, 3pm, UC 202A

Submitted by Terri S. Cook