


DATE: July 8, 2013

TO: Jeffrey Temple (Chair), Interim Director, Transfer & Dual Enrollment Programs;
Associate Professor, Chemistry
Mary Ballard, Professor, Counselor Education; Assistant to the Provost for Student Issues
Luanne Billingsley, Assistant Professor, Nursing
Kenneth Bolton, Department Head and Associate Professor, Sociology and Criminal Justice
Mary Katherine Borland, Assistant Athletic Director for Academic Support
Greg Crovetto, President, Student Government Association
Lori Fairburn, Director, Enrollment Services
Michelle Hall, Director, Institutional Research
Tim Hudson, Department Head and Professor, Mathematics
James Kirylo, Associate Professor, Teaching and Learning
Kay Maurin, Director of University Housing
Dorothy Nelson, Interim Director, Center for Student Excellence
Randy Settoon, Dean, College of Business
Eric Summers, Director, Multicultural and International Student Affairs

FROM: Tammy Bourg 
Provost

RE: Retention and Progression Task Force

As you know, student retention, progression, and graduation have become priorities for Southeastern and for colleges and universities nationwide. We are held accountable by legislation (GRAD Act) and accrediting agencies (SACS and some discipline-specific accrediting agencies) for our first-to-second year and first-to-third-year undergraduate retention rates, undergraduate cohort graduation rates, and number of completers at the baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels. Financial resources in the form of state funds and student tuition as well as degree program viability depend on our ability to provide the programs, services, resources, and infrastructure students need to be retained and progress toward graduation.

Because of the importance of graduating students in a timely manner, I am asking that you serve on the university-wide Retention and Progression Task Force. In accordance with [Vision 2017](#) and the [Division of Academic Affairs Vision 2017 Action Plans](#) [Strategic Priority 1.3.a (AA)], your charge is to propose a data-driven university-wide Retention and Progression Plan that identifies three to five core retention and progression strategies for implementation, beginning in the 2013-14 academic year. For ideas of data-driven targeted strategies, please see <http://campustechnology.com/articles/2013/07/03/big-data-helps-underperforming-students-succeed.aspx?CT21>. (You'll have to close the advertisement to get to the article.)

I have asked Jeff Temple to chair the task force. However, I will call the first meeting to speak with you more about your charge before beginning your work. Charlotte Martin from my office will be contacting you to schedule the first meeting.