

2016-17 Department Student Success Plan Assessment Report

Economics Department

Please answer the following questions in two pages and submit to your Dean by October 2. Your Dean will offer you feedback by Oct. 16 and advance final version¹ to Academic Affairs by October 20. This report will inform your 2017-18 Student Success Plan update that will be due to your Dean by Nov. 3. Previous report and plans can be found at this website: <http://irt2.indstate.edu/cms7/sp16/index.cfm/department-plans/>.

Person Primarily Responsible for Preparing this Report: John Conant

1. Specific accomplishments/achievements this past year (*briefly explain using bullet points, noting any changed/adapted*):

The Economics Department was able to achieve its two main goals for the year in reducing its DWFI rate (-11.56%) and increasing its lower division completion ratio (+4.64%). Although we were unable to increase utilization of Sis, we did make an effort to provide academic support for struggling students through encouraged use of office hours and utilization of the SS Ed help center (which is no longer operational). We continue to have 100% compliance with early grading opportunities and utilization of Blackboard gradebook.

2. Objective/Actions Not Achieved (*briefly explain using bullet points*):

Objectives which are major specific, are harder for us to evaluate given our small numbers. For example, our 1 Yr Retention rate over the past 5 years has been 50% (4), 75% (4), 89% (9), 57% (7), and 80% (5). This trend is meaningless in terms of making or evaluating retention “success”. Graduation rates show the same kind of drastic fluctuations due to the small number of majors we have.

3. Attention areas going forward as informed by 2016-17 retention, completion, course completion ratio, credit hour productivity, and D/F/drop rate data provided as well as other Blue Report or departmental data (*briefly explain using bullet points*).

The department will continue its efforts to provide increasing opportunities for students to experience meaningful and intense experiential learning and career readiness experiences. We make significant use of short-term disciplinary travel experiences, both domestic and international. We continue to offer good students opportunities to do research with a faculty member and to take students to state and regional professional conferences. We make significant use of outside speakers and field experiences. These activities are valuable for our students but will not be effective in “moving the numbers” given the small base of majors.

¹ Dean will request a refinement to the report if it is not suitably addressing the questions. Report will be shared with Trustees.