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## OASA Leadership Forum Summary, November 6, 2014

UNO Office of Academic and Student Affairs  
*University of Nebraska at Omaha*

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**OASA Leadership Forum Summary**  
**November 6, 2014**

In attendance: Hesham Ali, Gail F. Baker, John Fiene, Tom Gouttierre, Louis Pol, BJ Reed, Dan Shipp, Steve Shorb, Deb Smith-Howell, Scott Snyder

**Summary for October 2, 2014 Meeting was previously approved and posted on the web site.**

**Guest: Kristina Juarez, Senior Director for Student Development**

K. Juarez provided an overview of significant changes to orientation over the summer of 2014. Hosted 30 independent orientation dates; 11 different transfer dates; two options for TLC and Honors. Piloted military and veteran orientation options. Earliest was last week of May and extended to a week prior to classes beginning in August. 1193 parents and family members attended.

The following goals were discussed:

- New program ideas for 2014-15 that could generate more academic/faculty involvement in orientation.
- Identify new ways to involve more faculty in orientation programming.
- Identify at least one individual, preferably a faculty member, to sit on the Orientation Task Force.
- First year for on-line orientation; hosted by Blackboard in collaboration with Division of Continuing Studies.

Updates on numbers, this spring all new students will be eligible to take online orientation, including information about financial aid and Blackboard, general education requirements and how to navigate support services. Will receive digital copy of the welcome guide. Transfer students coming in during the summer will be able to option online as will adult (21 and over) students.

Online option is in response to student requests. Mammel allowed for customizing the experience and addressed issues of parking; food and allowed more of campus to be highlighted. Day ends at CEC; showcases engagement value of UNO. From CEC students could see housing, bookstore, financial aid. Still working on improving the experience for transfer student orientation. Students want to know how to navigate campus.

B. Reed suggested that building schematics be added to web to show students where classrooms are located. One of the biggest issues is academic advising; not built in for transfer students. A number of suggestions were offered, e.g., start orientation for transfer students earlier; promote online option.

Questions for today:

- Are we interested in college-specific orientations?
  - There was some interest but will need to discuss with advisers.
- Do we want a mechanism for family members to connect to the colleges in some way?
  - The general consensus was yes.
- How do we better recruit faculty to the orientation task force?
  - Several suggestions—work with deans to identify; identify potential candidates and run by the deans; deans need clarification of expectations.
- Question remains—how do we address orientation for transfer students?
  - Deans will provide feedback on including advising for transfer students when they come to campus for orientation.

Student Affairs also looking at how student success website helps students.

Chairs and directors will receive information about strategies for course leveling. Standard times will be suggested; hybrid courses can be paired up; Friday-only option; more evening classes. On February 1, 2015, the goal is to have no orphan classes.

**Other Items Discussed:**

Kelly Fund request proposals deadline will be January 20. Need to be submitted to D. Smith-Howell.

Course fees need to be finalized by the first week in January.

T. Gouttierre handed out study abroad and international studies data.

**UNO Talking Points for External Audiences (NOT DISCUSSED)**