# Glennita Haskey, Vice President of Student Affairs Diné College



# Board of Regent Report NOVEMBER 2022

#### **Mission Statement:**

Student Affairs will expand educational partnerships (internally and externally) to advance student learning.

#### **Strategic Goals Focus:**

STUDENT SUCCESS – Promote student success and development

#### **Key Program Reports:**

# **Cross-Institutional Dialogue to Promote Student Success**

#### **OUTCOMES & OPPORTUNITIES:**

#### **CHALLENGES & IMPROVEMENTS:**

STUDENT ADVISING—STUDENT ACADEMIC PROGRESS AT MID TERM: The Advising domain at Student Affairs reviewed the student academic progress for mid term for the Fall 2022 semester in October 2022. The following data was identified:

Academic School:	Number of students (advisees) pursuing a degree in the field:
School of Humanities & Fine Arts	67 students
School of Business and Social	
Behavioral Science	500 students
School of Dine' Studies &	204 students
Education	
School of STEM	596 students

In addition, the Student Support team identified 55% of the student population (unduplicated count) with a non-passing grade at midterm in one or more of their courses for Fall 2022 semester. The team has been conducting follow up with students to advocate, identify and discuss challenges, and re-boost their academic progresses. Common issue students expressed to contribute to their academic challenges were: 1) lack of feedback and communication with faculty; and 2) time management and multiple commitments.

**RESIDENTIAL LIFE PROGRAM:** The College's Project Management office has coordinated the upgrading and installation of the HVAC system for the 10 residential dorms on campus. In network with the Residential Life staff and residential students, the construction have been scheduled in phases to ensure continuation of on-campus housing services without interruptions.

The dorms will close on December 9, 2022 for the Fall 2022 semester. The Residential Life Program will concentrate to deep clean, schedule necessary maintenance, and assess facility needs in preparation for the Spring 2023 semester.

**ALEX MATH PLACEMENT TESTING:** The Learning Centers at Tsaile and Shiprock Campuses networked with the Math Faculty to implement the Alex Math Placement test in the Fall 2022 semester to properly place students based on their skills and knowledge. There is a need for other community campuses to be orientated and trained on using the math placement test, too. Student Affairs will follow up with the math faculty to confirm continuation of the math placement, as well as providing the necessary training to administer the placement test at other community campuses.

NAVAJO LANGUAGE PLACEMENT TESTING: Student Affairs has been assisting the Center for Dine' Studies (CDS) with administering the Navajo language placement testing for new students each semester during the absence of Faculty on campus during the pandemic (Sum 2019 to Present). Due to the high volume of students' requesting advising support, Student Affairs agreed to return the administration of the language placement back to the faculty with Center for Dine' Studies. The Navajo Language Placement testing is a responsibility of the CDS department.

STUDENT INTERNSHIP—STUDENT FEEDBACK FOR PROGRAM GROWTH: The Career Education team is creating a program plan to expand students' educational and professional development opportunities that align with their career interests. Student Affairs rely on the Paid Internship grant and needs to research additional summer internship opportunities outside of the College for the students.

## **Expanding Student Opportunities For Leadership Development**

#### **OUTCOMES & OPPORTUNITIES:**

#### **CHALLENGES & IMPROVEMENTS:**

**STUDENT ATHLETIC PROGRAM:** Athletic Director completed the Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act for the College. The report will be posted on the Athletics Department website in November. In addition, the Athletic Director also completed the report for USCAA and submitted to headquarters office. The report will be an addition to the USCAA Nationals Athletic Directors Meeting in November.

**STUDENT INTERNSHIP RESEARCH PROJECTS:** Athletics College Interns are working on research papers to be published on campus to showcase their academic skills. The College Interns are progressing in compiling the research. Research papers include:

- 1) Youth Diabetes on Navajo Nation, and
- 2) Negative Effects of Sugar on Human Body.

#### STUDENT ATHLETE ACADEMIC MIDTERM PROGRESS:

Based on the Fall 2022 Midterm Semester Grades reporting, 58% of student athletes did not pass, resulting in students sitting out of competitions and/or practice until GPA is satisfactory. Students were referred to Tutoring programs for academic support and improvements. Students self-identified the top 3 reasons contributing to a low GPA and grading were:

- 1) instructors not responding and/or communicating,
- 2) homework or class work not explained properly, and
- 3) difficult to work online, need face-to-face instructions.

# **Building Cultural Relevance Into Academic and Student Support Programs**

#### **OUTCOMES & OPPORTUNITIES:**

#### **CHALLENGES & IMPROVEMENTS:**

STUDENT HEALTH AND WELLNESS: Student Wellness team initiated Healthy Habits activities at Tsaile Campus. Students participated in walking the campus loop at noon; as time progressed, the participation of students and staff increased this semester. The Campus Circle walks are self-paced and strength training exercises were incorporated to the walk such as lunges, high knees, arm circles, etc. Common feedback received from students were for health and wellness activities to be delivered in the evenings. A virtual link is activate for students to have the opportunity to engage virtually from the community campuses.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Several staff members participated in the inperson Safe Talk Suicide Training in Flagstaff, AZ. Participants learned the steps in order to address suicide in a respectful and meaningful way.

**COLLEGE AND COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK:** The Career Education team will revisit the rising project with the Navajo Nation Department of Self-Reliance (DSR) to build training and college transition opportunities.

STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS: Student Mental Health Coordinator met with six (6) students who presented issues related to mental health, well-being, academic support, and additional resources. Coordinator made two referrals and helped a student experiencing a high mental health crisis that involved security, Chinle EMS, and Chinle Emergency Room.

Common student issues addressed during 1:1 session include the following: substance abuse, sexual assault, suicide, lack of support by staff and faculty, anxiety, stress, and depression, and academic related reasons.

# **Administrative Summaries**

### **Student Affairs Highlights & Announcements**

**CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS:** Gymnasium has been open for Residential students with available hours of 10am through 7pm. Five (5) residential students make use of the facility daily within the hours of 5:30pm and 7pm. In Spring 2023, the facility will be open to residential students, commuter students, and Dine' College Employees with limited number of patrons per hour (10).

College Weight Room upholds the Athletic Department's COVID-19 Guidelines by continuing to screen patrons, enforce advance appointments, limiting number of patrons per hour with extended hours of operation beginning at 8am through 7pm. (Last appointment hour starting at 6pm)

Several student-oriented and student community building activities were hosted on campus in October for students and staff. The events have been well attended and supported by students. Students continue to request for weekly activities such as Lift Offs exuberant workouts, weightlifting challenges, and circuit challenges. All activities have been recorded for future activities for the Athletic Department to consider.

**STUDENT POLICIES UPDATE:** Revision of the Residence Life Handbook (2015) since there are new recommended topics such as pet policy, CV19 safety protocols, etc. The Committee will include Res Life, AD, Associate Director of SA, SMH Coordinator, and SEAL Director. There may be additional members. Team is awaiting on meeting invite from Res Life Manager.