**Soft-Skills Minutes Assessment Committee Meeting, Friday, November 20, 2020**

Zoom Call

Attendance: Dr. Gina Kamwithi, Justin Tickhill, Dr. Karen Reed, Christine Lynch, Deb Hysell, Michelle Slattery, Christine Barker

1. **Call to order**

Justin called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm. Minutes approved.

1. **Soft Skills Updates**

Justin uploaded the soft skills definitions in CANVAS.

Soft skill assessment has not gained the traction needed to gather substantive data.

An idea was suggested that to make soft skill assessment concrete by perhaps using division meetings to facilitate discussion on how each of the programs have taught, developed, updated, and assessed.

Discussion surrounded the definitions put forth for the *“Growth Mindset”.* Faculty brought forth how the foster this soft skill within their courses. This helped them to brainstorm which of the definitions might fit best.

Deb H. offered to synthesis the different definitions that were submitted for the Growth Mindset.

See submitted definitions below, with highlights of words of interest, and discussed further.

**Growth Mindset Definition**

Growth Mindset is the belief ~~that intelligence is changeable~~ and that abilities can be developed through challenge, resilience, effort, and effective strategies.

From Carol Dweck’s *Mindset*: *The New Psychology of Success:*

“The love of challenge, belief in effort, resilience in the face of setbacks, and greater (more creative!) success” (p. 12) “Changeable ability that can be developed through learning” and “stretching yourself to learn something new” (p. 15) Center for Community College Student Engagement (CCCSE) 2019 national report *A Mind at Work: Maximizing the Relationship between Mindset and Student Success:*

“Growth vs. fixed mindset refers to students’ perceptions of the potential for change in their intelligence …[Individuals] with a growth mindset believe that ‘your basic qualities are things that you can cultivate through your efforts, your strategies, and help from others.’” (p. 6)

# *Carol Dweck: The Power of Believing That You Can Improve. TED:*

“A growth mindset is when students understand that their abilities can be developed”

-**Deb Hysell**

“Growth mindset is an approach which allows someone to try to take a new perspective on things; not defaulting to their prior or comfortable patterns and habits. I see a lot of parallels between growth mindset and divergent thinking processes. "Are we solving the right problems?" I like using this question when faced with a challenge, struggle, issue, etc., as a means of trying to get a different (better?) perspective.”

**-Michelle Slattery**

‘Embracing a willingness to reconsider (and let go of) one's preconceived notions about the world, how it works, and what one is capable of achieving in the world.”

**-Beth Franz**

“A capability to develop and mature one’s understanding and perspective of the world around them.”

**-Justin Tickhill**

The team worked together to take parts of each definition and meld them together.

An intentional belief and practice to reconsider and develop new abilities and perspectives to explore the challenges of the world.

The team voted to have Deb H. look at this more and update the definition. She will send her redacted version by the end of Wednesday 25th to Justin. We will send back our ideas on November 30th. She will then submit back to the team December 3rd, 2020.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:37p.m.

Submitted by Gina Kamwithi