Present: Scott Cochran, Deb Shumaker, LuAnn Mabarak (via Skype), Nick Baker, Michelle Vyskocil, Kim Ruddy, Evelyn Schenk

Status Updates:

Reducing Non-Tuition Costs - Deb stated that the group is still in the information gathering stage, surveying students with three questions. If the group is looking at ways to reduce costs, but we may be increasing fees, this is trading one for another? How are we reducing the overall costs? Kim stated that the group can still focus on reducing costs however they can. Deb stated that they have to be careful and stay focused, so they’re focusing on textbooks. Evelyn asked how the group plans to measure their success. Deb said that they are not sure at this point and that they are gathering student input as part of the process.

Scott stated that he took the textbook out of his astronomy class and that students are upset because they have to look the info up. Deb shared that students coming to the library indicate they want a textbook. Kim stressed that is important to educate students on how to use electronic textbooks and that instructors should use class time to do this. Scott said that he feels that students need to push this for it to gain momentum. His feeling is that approximately 60 - 70% of faculty would be open to trying open source materials.

Dual & Concurrent Enrollment – Scott shared that the group is almost done with a manual that can be handed out students and schools. He and John Thiel are working on communication and plan on sharing info through email to staff. The manual includes Individual situations for enrollment, an overview of the process in general, addresses some problems with counselors / superintendents. A flow chart is almost complete.

First Year Experience – The group has not met since the last steering committee meeting, has one scheduled for next Friday per Michelle. Jason T. is restructuring the group and Michelle is no longer sure who is in it. Evelyn will send Jason T. the original charter along with a request for an update.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for April 10 at 2 p.m.