Members Present:
Albidrez, Branker, Braiser, Burnette, Callanan, Conway, Easterling, Foster, Hill, Jackson, Leach, McGraw, Mitchell, Outing, Ray, Standish, Steinke, Watts, Wical, Zelna

Burnette gave two announcements before beginning the meeting. She related that Dixon would not be able to lead her group on November 28th due to a medical emergency. She asked the council keep her in their thoughts. She also asked that someone volunteer to help Grant with the Student Engagement presentation. Watts agreed to help.

Burnette suggested she coordinate transportation to the Parks Alumni Center for the next meeting. Committee members wanted to coordinate transportation for themselves. They asked that Burnette send a reminder near the time of the meeting. Members could carpool with other members in or near their buildings.

Updates
- **Student Success Web Site**
  Burnette related that the Student Success web site (http://www.ncsu.edu/success/) is up and running and reminded the Council to advertise this site to students.

- **Hispanic Achievement Conference**
  Jen Foster and Burnette attended the Hispanic Achievement Conference on Oct. 19th at the McKimmon Center. Burnette related two of the sessions that she attended: 1) a session by Dr. Maria Palmer on *Confianza*, a qualitative study of what Hispanic students say they need to be successful; and 2) a session where five Hispanic students spoke about their challenges in the system. Foster related that this conference talked a great deal about the Dream Act and the impact it will have on undocumented students.

- **UNC-GA 4th Annual Retention and Graduation Conference**
  Burnette related that she and ten other members from NC State attended the UNC-System retention conference, including several members from ACCESS: Conway, Dixon, Leach, Ray, Standish. There were a number of presentations:
    - First, Harold Martin spoke on “UNC Board of Governors Policy & Goals, Evaluation and Reporting”
    - This was followed by John Lee’s presentation on “If this is so Easy, Why is it so Hard to Do?”
    - There was a presentation by UNC-CH on “It Takes a University: Programs and Initiatives in Support of Retention and Student Success on their Academic Probation System”
    - “Evaluating Academic Success Effectively with “EASE”: A New Survey of Academic Engagement” by UNC-Charlotte
    - Another by NC Central on “Aspiring Eagle Scholars Summer Bridge Program”
    - UNC Wilmington gave a presentation on its “Westside Hall,” a center housing their student support programs.

The conference concluded with each institution discussing issues and challenges particular to their institution. The NC State table discussed policies, such as progress towards degree,
attendance, and how to put structures in place that facilitate academic warning signals. These discussions will continue. Burnette will keep ACCESS informed.

Burnette distributed Policy 400.1.5, Improving Retention and Graduation Rates, from the UNC Policy Manual. The Council was asked to read through the policy and to begin thinking how ACCESS can strategically respond to this regulation.

Burnette related that Dean Conway presented the Student Success Inventory at the Dean’s Council. She and Dixon went to answer pertinent questions. The deans all seemed to think it was a good idea. Katie Perry commented that the tool looked like “a wonderful tool that will serve us well.”

Burnette also related that the ACCESS Strategic Planning Team reviewed the 168 projects in the Student Success Inventory and coded the additional eight fields. Now, the Council must review projects in their areas for accuracy. Everyone has access to the tool and a PDF of definitions or examples have been added for their information. The Council was reminded to contact Burnette if they still had questions.

- **Student Success Inventory Presentation (Conway)**
  Conway presented on the Student Success Inventory as moving NC State towards the “A” word. He talked about assessment as the opportunity to prove as well as improve. This means prove that programs are doing what they are intended to do and the opportunity to improve what the process without reservation. This is the core of meaningful assessment.

  He asked, “How do we get what we know is out there?” The database is up and functioning. You can go in, add and delete programs, assign access to people who support your programs. It is distributed via the Internet. You can get to it anywhere 24/7. It is user-friendly. We are in the third iteration of this process and we are going to keep improving it. You can search by college, by program type, by demographic information for students. We have put in variables articulated in research articles and in journals relative to the research on student success. As we are building the tool, we are building the opportunity to also do significant research in this area. He commented that the goal for demonstrating this tool and giving this presentation is simple. This tool only has value to the degree that ACCESS participates in putting the information in that describes our programs.

  Conway encouraged the Council to think about what can be pulled out of the information already there and discover what is missing. This will enable us to add pieces to the next iterations of the inventory. If we are successful in categorizing our efforts now, NC State will be a model of administrative efficiencies in the area of student success to other UNC-System institutions later.

- **Updates from Subgroups: Assessment, Policy and Practice, Student Engagement**
  There were no updates and there were no questions. Burnette announced that presentations are due to her on November 9, 2007. She will compile these and send them out for any additional edits.

- **Announcements/Updates**
  Ray announced that the deadline for participating in the Latino Initiative Program is coming up soon (November 30). There are still several spots left for NC State faculty/staff. The cost is $3800. It would be great to have NC State represented. She will email further details later.

- **Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 28, 2007.**
  We will be meeting with Provost Nielsen in the Hood Board Room, Park Alumni Center.