Factors Impacting the Performance of Under-served Students A Research Agenda for Foothill De Anza CCD

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Overview

- Background:
 - Definition, Level of Analysis, Past Research
- Research Strands:
 - Profile, Outcomes, Interventions
- Collaboration with Other Institutions
- Communicating the Results to Encourage Change

Definition

"Underserved students are defined as students who do not receive <u>equitable</u> resources as other students in the academic pipeline. Typically, these groups of students include low-income, underrepresented racial/ethnic minorities, and first generation students as well as many others."

Source: "Academic Pathways to Access and Student Success" (funded by Lumina Foundation)

http://www.apass.uiuc.edu/APASS/definitions.htm

The Research Role

"... the time and energy and capacity to stop every once in a while to <u>reflect</u> on what we're doing, challenge ourselves, interrogate the <u>evidence</u>, and change?"

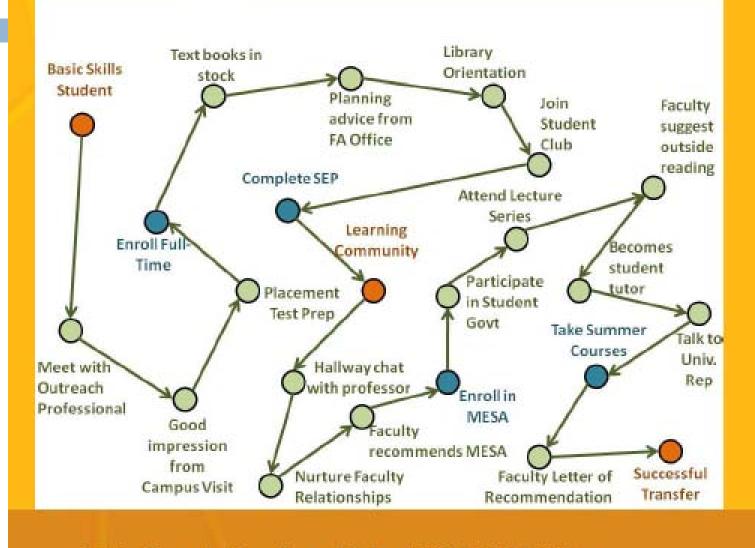
De Anza College President Murphy, Educational Master Plan, 2010

- Provide objective evidence
- Give advice on how to interpret the results
- Develop a relationship that encourages questions

Use Past Work as a Foundation

- Basic Skills Initiative Research
- LART (Basic Skills Reading and Writing)
 Comparative Analysis
- Faculty Mentoring (Advising) Pilot for Underserved Students
- Equity for All Team Report
- Title III and AAPI Intervention Results
- Financial Aid Survey Research

Students Progress in a Non-Linear Fashion



Bridging Research, Information, and Culture (BRIC) | 2009 | RP Group

Develop a Comprehensive Profile of Under-served Students

- Community, family, language
- Academic preparation, study habits
- Financial need, work hours
- Use data from the CCCApply Application including new questions on
 - Parental education
 - Family income

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Track Student Behaviors and Outcomes

- Math and English Progression: Placement, Course Success, Next Course Completion, Progress to College Level
- Degree / Transfer Attainment
- Student Learning Outcomes (where available)
- Special Program Participation
- Use Banner Cohort Module to track groups of students over time

Analysis of Interventions

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- Compare outcomes for under-served students to similar students not receiving interventions
- Matched samples
- Regression focus on the intervention by controlling for other factors related to the change in outcome
- Pre and Post intervention comparisons
 - Enable Math with and without Counseling / CSI
- Random assignment?
 - "Evaluating a Non-Randomized Trial," JARCC, LaManque, Spring 2009

Pursue Collaborations with Other Institutions

- Support Cal-PASS sponsored Professional Learning Councils (high schools and universities)
- Explore possible student needs assessments with NASA – University Associates partners
- Assist with the development of grants to pilot interventions in multiple colleges (STEM, Gates Model)

Communicate the Results to Encourage Change

- Research should be presented to / with key groups
 - Academic and Classified Senates
 - College Basic Skills Groups

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- Timing should be linked to planning and budget processes such as:
 - Program Review / Updates
 - Assessment of Institutional Competencies
 - Institutional Outcomes / Metrics

Act as Educators to Encourage Learning

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"... every teacher should be a researcher and every researcher, a teacher."

Harriett J. Robles, Ed. D., Keynote Speech, RP Conference, April 22-23, 2010

References

- Fostering a Culture of Evidence and Inquiry, Rob Johnstone and Priyadarshini Chaplot, Presentation at the RP Conference, 2010. http://www.rpgroup.org/documents/FosteringaCultureofEvidenceandInquiry.pdf
- Outcomes of High Impact Practices for Underserved Students: A Review of the Literature, Lynn E. Swaner, Ed.D., LMHC, NCC, ACS, Jayne E. Brownell, Ed.D., Prepared for the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U), Project USA, September 28, 2008
- Reconceptualizing Success for Underserved Students in Higher Education Laura I.
 Rendón, Iowa State University, National Postsecondary Education Cooperative, October 2006