

## Feedback from TP/SS Campus Focus Group

October 13, 2015

Attendance: 16

### THEMES:

- Seamless transitions (K12 to MC to 4YR), easy transitions, advising for HS to MC transition
- Access (financial, distance ed, etc.)
- Academic excellence, academic rigor, fostering reputation for academic excellence, balancing rigor and completion
- Meeting needs of special populations (international students, seniors), equity in completions rates
- Fostering a sense of community and belonging
- Job placement
- Global education

### INITIATIVES:

- Curriculum alignment
- Identify barriers to persistence
- Competency based education
- Assigned mentors/advisors, ALL faculty and staff participate as mentors, everyone has at least two mentees (one in discipline and one out), each one reach one (assign students to accountable faculty)
- MC Mentors umbrella to organize mentoring programs
- Protocols for students in crisis, triage flow charts
- Better communication to students, ways to reach out to students, centralized calendar of activities
- Achieving the Promise/CTAG
- Global education
- Address issues of cost (WEPA, textbooks, student computers) and students who may be hungry

- Advising particular to DS and AELP students
- More emphasis on library instruction
- More individualized DSS accommodations
- Student support centers (making students aware, reaching out to students)
- Technology training for students, esp discipline specific and seniors
- Community building, community activities for students
- Course scheduling (esp. standardized schedule for ACES)
- Professional development (esp. as relates to teaching different generations)

### Feedback from GBTC Campus Focus Group

October 14, 2015

Attendance: 6

#### THEMES:

- Ability of businesses and employers to access services
- Public understanding of programs and offerings
- Helping underserved populations understand college/post-secondary education/non-credit
- Focus programs more specifically on workforce outcomes, balance career skills and liberal arts
- Blending/unification of workforce and transfer options

#### INITIATIVES:

- Alternative teaching and learning strategies
- Increased marketing budget and tv advertising
- Technical Professional Skills (TPS) degrees (credit for prior learning), micro-credentials and badges
- Access to data
- Create curriculum to respond to real-world circumstances and data

- Balance on-line offerings with bricks and mortar
- New facilities for new programs (such as kitchen for cooking program)
- Pathways that combine credit for testing, skills, and coursework
- Increase on-line degree and certificate offerings, MOOCs
- Increase weekend programs for working students
- Greater use of term “careers” in outreach
- Increase resources for WDCE (personnel, on-line course development, marketing)

### Feedback from RV Campus Focus Group

October 15, 2015

Attendance: 25+

#### THEMES:

- Learning in general, learning for learning’s sake, abstract thought
- Understanding of academic culture
- Empowering students to take initiative, self-sufficiency, personal responsibility
- Critical thinking, problem solving skills, ability to improvise
- Written and oral communication
- Emotional intelligence, empathy
- Prepare students for 21<sup>st</sup> century
- Ethics
- Lifelong learning
- Financial/quantitative literacy
- Antidote to “google rot”
- Curiosity, inquisitiveness
- Flexibility and focus

## INITIATIVES:

- Advising—improve/streamline process
- Academic coaches (career coach is on the website)
- Academic hotline
- Inventory current college resources
- Mapping resources
- Learning communities
- I-best
- Integrate quantitative skills with content
- Reflective teaching
- Increase support center awareness
- Financial aid awareness
- Comprehensive wellness program for students
- Focused exploration of courses
- PR campaign “it’s ok to take more than 60 credits”

## Feedback from GT Campus Focus Group

October 16, 2015

Attendance: 17

## THEMES:

- Successful transfer, preparation for next “arena”
- Equity at all levels (access, global, classroom)
- More student engagement
- More human interaction
- Definition of success (more than just degrees)
- Liberal education and/or liberally educated students
- Workforce and economic alignment
- Right service to right student at right time

- Non-academic preparation (students)
- Removing silos across institution

#### INITIATIVES:

- Linking WDCE and credit programs
- Student cohorts = student engagement
- Withdrawal policies that help students
- Intentional and exploratory course selection
- Inter-subject assignments (one paper, two classes)
- Non-traditional instruction
- Culture of advising, mentoring, coaching
- Hire more full-time faculty
- Accessible data and analytics
- Award/reward/incentive for professional development
- Course scheduling and offerings
- Link local employers to academic affairs (advisory councils?)
- College supported central repository for instruction activities, ways to share pedagogy
- Accurate college-wide calendar
- Library services that offer additional support for students