
The Completion Agenda

Butte College

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Two Key Questions

- 1. What is the Completion Agenda, and why is it important?**
- 2. What really works to help students succeed?**



Question One

**What is the
Completion Agenda,
and why is it
Important?**



The Mission of Completion

The mission of the Completion Agenda is to double the number of students who by the year 2020 earn a certificate, associate's degree, or transfer to a four-year college or university.



Completion Agenda

- **President Obama: 5 million more CC grads by 2020**
- **Lumina: 60% increase by 2025**
- **Gates: double number of grads**
- **CC Org: 50% more by 2020**
- **Ohio: 50% by 2020**
- **Anne Arundel: double by 2020**



Why Important?

- **Once first in the world, America now ranks 16th in the percentage of young adults with a college degree.**
- **The World Economic Forum ranks the U.S.'s educational system 26th in the world.**



Why Important?

- For the first time in our history, the current generation of college-age Americans will be less educated than their parents' generation.
- “If your daddy was rich, you’re gonna stay rich, and if your daddy was poor you’re gonna stay poor.”

Esquire, January 2012



Why Important?

- **14% of CC students do not complete a single credit in first term**
- **Almost 50% drop out by second yr.**
- **60% need remediation**
- **33% recommended for dvlp. studies never enroll in those courses**



In the history of our colleges

- **Never so much support from so many stakeholders**
- **Never so much funding from foundations**
- **Never so much research on what works to ensure student success**



California Challenges

- **Less than 30% of students are college-ready.**
- **Only 53.6% of degree-seeking students ever achieve that goal.**
- **Of students who plan to transfer only 41% are successful.**



Student Success Task Force

“Recommendations present an opportunity for transformative change that will refocus our system’s efforts and resources to enable a greater number of our students to succeed.”



Butte College Vision & Values

- **Butte College educationally, economically and culturally empowers the communities we serve by helping students define and achieve success.**
- **Students First: Student success is our purpose and focal point of decision-making and resource allocation.**
- **Focused on student-centered learning, Butte College strives to be the first choice for students seeking degrees, transfer, certificates, and job skills.**



Commitment Statement

- **We believe that completion matters and that students count.**
- **We believe that student access, equity, success, and completion are and will continue to be the focus of Butte College students, faculty, staff, administrators, and Board of Trustees.**
- **We commit to Butte College's focus on student access, equity, completion, and success regardless of the state's economic situation.**



Question Two

**What really works to
help students
succeed?**



Magic Practices

- **Learning Communities**
- **First-Year Experience**
- **Contextual Instruction**
- **Project-Based Learning**
- **Supplemental Instruction**
- **Student Success Course**
- **Dual Enrollment**
- **Early College High School**



“Best Practices”

“While colleges will likely need to adopt some new practices and adapt some older practices, practice-based reforms cannot be the primary work undertaken by colleges participating in Completion by Design.”

Venezia, Bracco, & Nodine 2011



“Best Practices”

Adopting discrete “best practices” and trying to bring them to scale will not work to improve student completion on a substantial scale.

Davis Jenkins

April 2011—CCRC



Guidelines for Student Success

- 1. Every student will make a significant connection with another person at the college as soon as possible.**



Guidelines for Student Success

2. Key intake programs including orientation, assessment, advisement, and placement will be integrated and mandatory.



Student Success Task Force

“Colleges are required to also consider other measures of a student’s ability to succeed, such as academic history and demonstrated motivation.”

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SuccessNavigator--ETS

Knowing whether a student will succeed in college requires a holistic understanding of a student's strengths and vulnerabilities in areas such as motivation, social support, and time management.



What Is SuccessNavigator?

- A 30-minute online assessment for incoming students
- Better placement in college level or developmental courses
- A model for early warning, advising, and acceleration

ets.org/successnavigator

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Guidelines for Student Success

3. Every student will be placed in a “Program of Study” from day one; undecided students will be placed in a mandatory “Program of Study” designed to help them decide.

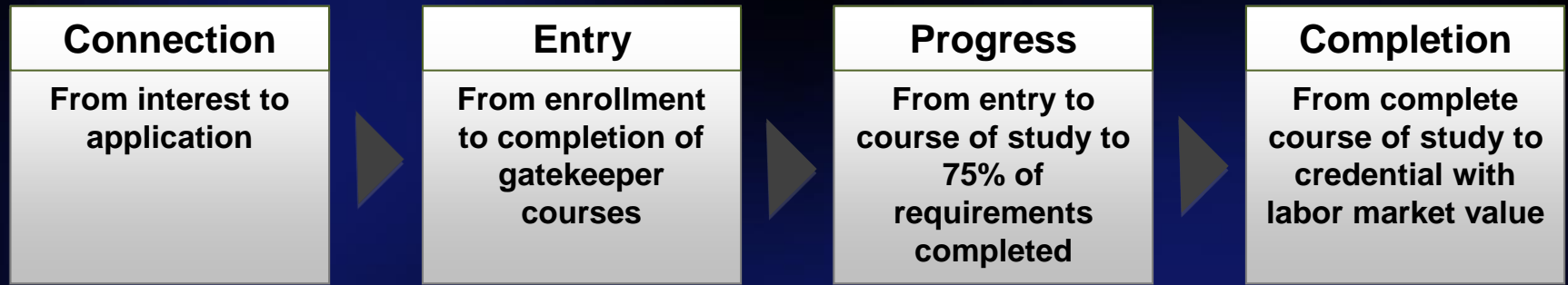


Guidelines for Student Success

4. Every student who enrolls to pursue a certificate, degree, or who plans to transfer will work with college personnel to create a Student Success Pathway—a Roadmap to Completion.



Student Success Pathway



BILL & MELINDA
GATES *foundation*



Pathway Components

**Connecting
to high
schools**



**Preparing to
begin classes**



**Providing
remediation**



**Providing
classroom
instruction**



**Monitoring
first-term
progress**



**Preparing for
completion &
next steps**



**Preparing for
subsequent
terms**



**Celebrating
milestones &
completion**



Roadmap Project Pathways

- **Salt Lake CC—Roadmap Action Plan**
- **Prince George's CC—Road to Success**
- **Lane CC—GPS/Guide to Personal Success**
- **Miami-Dade—Roadmap to Completion**
- **Mt. San Antonio CC—Digital Roadmap**
- **Valencia College—LifeMap**
- **Harper College—Student Lifecycle**
- **Indian River—Individual Advising Plan**



Guidelines for Student Success

5. Every student will be carefully monitored throughout the first term to ensure successful progress; the college will make interventions immediately to keep students on track.



Guidelines for Student Success

6. Students will engage in courses and experiences designed to broaden and deepen their learning.



Employer Views

“To achieve professional and career success in today’s global economy, I would advise a young person to pursue a liberal education.”

**Response from 74% of 318 employers in a survey by AAC&U
January 2013**



Core Mission of Education

In the final analysis our work is about improving and expanding student learning through quality services and quality teaching.

Completion is a valuable by-product of that work.



Terry O'Banion

Ancora Imparo
“Still I Am Learning.”

Michelangelo



Key Resource

***Access, Success, and Completion:
A Primer for Community College
Faculty, Administrators, Staff and
Trustees***

Terry O'Banion

Order from League for Innovation:

- **480-705-8200 ext. 200**
- **www.league.org/store**

