
• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VaEMwIq5PIM&app=desktop
STUDENT SUCCESS:
SETTING SYSTEM GOALS

September 8, 2016
Overview for Today

Purpose: Finalize definition and discuss focus areas for goals.

Overview:

• Review contributing factors and revision, and finalize “Student Success” definition

• Brief background on Benchmark II ‘environmental scan’
  o Assess what is happening nationally and statewide in the strategic priority area
  o Identify major issues facing higher education in the area
  o Explore solutions peers are implementing to address these issues

• Discuss focus areas from scan
  o Examine other states’ goals
  o Consider a draft example
  o Discuss possible goals

Follow-up: Finalize definition & 2-3 focus areas/goals for further development.
Proposed Revised Definition of Student Success

*Student Success* is a multifaceted construct of positive intellectual, personal, and social transformation facilitated by the University. It includes:

- The timely acquisition of a degree, and
- The development of competencies – critical thinking, life-long learning, technological mastery, resilience, flexibility, and collaboration, among others – for a meaningful engagement in 21st-century life, including, but not limited to the workforce.
BENCHMARK II: EVALUATE NATIONAL, STATE AND UNIVERSITY LANDSCAPE
INSTITUTIONAL TRANSFORMATIONS

UMBC

Georgia State University
From the environmental scan: four focus areas

1. Timely degree attainment

2. Achievement disparities across groups

3. Financial needs and student indebtedness

4. Skills development for 21st century
Focus Area 1: Timely degree attainment

- Changing student body characteristics require consideration of appropriate metrics
  - Other example: Seat Time

- Transfer students pose some challenges for institution-level completion descriptors
  - Example: Someone starts at UNC-Charlotte and transfers to Princeton. UNC institution is ‘penalized’.

- Intervention Examples:
  - Intrusive advising
  - Course re-design
  - Supplemental Instruction
  - Improved articulation
  - Multiple simultaneous approaches necessary
DISCUSSION
Focus Area 2: Achievement disparities

- Disparities in degree completion by demographics
  - Racial and ethnic groups
  - Low-income
    - 2013: by age 24, 77% adults from top quartile income had degree vs. 9% lowest income quartile
  - First-generation
  - Rural

- Other issues:
  - Males v. females
  - STEM degrees by gender
  - Drop-outs with satisfactory or higher academic performance by GPA
Focus Area 3: Financial needs and student indebtedness

- Student debt is an important issue that requires drill-down information
  - UNC graduates have debt less than other publics (~$5,000 less)
  - 38% have no debt

- Stop-outs and debt: What the data show
  - 43% of all stop-outs do so after year 1 and have an average debt of $4200
  - Another 22-30% drop out in year 2 (almost 70% overall)

- Unmet need continues to grow among certain groups
  - 50% students come from family incomes less than $24,000
  - UNC total Pell – nearly 45% of all students
DISCUSSION
Focus Area 4: Skills development for 21\textsuperscript{st} century workforce

- In addition to traditional skills such as communication and teamwork desired by employers, new skills required
- Context for new skills includes
  - Global economy
  - New media ecology
  - Smart machines and systems
  - Longevity
- New skills include:
  - adaptive and flexible thinking
  - social intelligence (beyond teamwork and collaboration)
  - cognitive load management
  - cross-cultural competency
DISCUSSION
System Goals should be:

- System-focused, rather than constituent institutions-focused
- Direction setting
- Aligned with and central to the University’s mission
- Aspirational and rigorous
- Actionable, time-bound, and measurable.
Creating a System Goal Can be Challenging

- Too broad
- Too specific
- Need potential for alignment with 17 institutions
DISCUSSION: SAMPLE GOALS FOR FOCUS AREAS
Focus Area 1: Timely degree attainment

Goals From Other States

- **Georgia**: development of new and flexible general education & degree program pathways that promote affordable & high quality course and degree completion options
- **Texas**: By 2030, at least 60 percent of Texans ages 25-34 will have a certificate or degree
- **Florida**: Increase Degree Productivity and Program Efficiency • Increase access and efficient degree completion for students

Sample UNC Goal

- Increase the rate of student retention, and 4 and 6 year graduation rates at each university
Focus Area 2 – Achievement disparities

Goals from other states:

- **Georgia**: Ensure Student Support for At-risk Populations: The USG will continue the work to ensure student support for at-risk student populations...

- **Florida**: Increase the Number of Degrees Awarded in STEM/Health and Other Programs of Strategic Emphasis

- **Tennessee**: Raise the UT System’s academic quality, stature and impact through educational excellence and student achievement across diverse populations.

Sample UNC goal

- Decrease group differences by such factors as socio-economic status, race, and geography in retention and graduation rates.
FOCUS AREA 3

WHAT TO DO ABOUT FINANCIAL NEED and DEBT?
Focus Area 4 - Skills development for 21st century

Goals from other states:

- **Pennsylvania**: Enable more students to obtain credentials that prepare them for life, career, and the responsibilities of citizenship.
- **Arizona**: Equip graduates with 21st century communication, analytical and problem solving skills.
- **Texas**: All graduates from Texas public institutions of higher education will have completed programs with identified marketable skills.

Sample UNC goal

- Increase opportunities for experiential learning; civic engagement; participation in university clubs/organizations; and access to student support services.
Sample Goals from other state systems

• Raise the UT System’s academic quality, stature and impact through educational excellence and student achievement across diverse populations. (Tennessee)
• Increase on-time completion of certificates and degrees. (Virginia)
• Equip graduates with 21st century communication, analytical and problem solving skills. (Arizona)
• By 2030, at least 60 percent of Texans ages 25-34 will have a certificate or degree. (Texas)
DISCUSSION
IDENTIFY 2-3 TOPIC AREAS FOR FURTHER GOAL DEVELOPMENT
NEXT STEPS

Draft goals based on topical areas identified for further discussion at October BOG meeting.
NOTE: Process for Reviewing Each Goal

- Background information provided in hard copy
  - Copy of goal and any supporting information
  - Have attendees “mark-up” the goal during the discussion
- Chancellor presents, leads discussion on goal, ask questions, etc
- Review data provided
  - Note additional data needed
- Collect each goal with their comments to review later