



Undergraduate Learning & Educational Experience

June 2, 2016 • Academic Strategies Committee

Since July 2015, the Division of Undergraduate Studies has been working tirelessly to leverage data as well as the enthusiasm of campus partners to lay a strong foundation for our path to a truly transformative undergraduate experience for all students.

Progress on the Blueprint for Undergraduate Student Success

Blueprint Area	What's Done?	What's Next?
Institutionalize First-Year Experience (FYE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Conducted data analysis and created summary report on first-year orientation courses at OSU ✓ Call for high impact practices like projects, research, writing, etc. during first-year UEngage courses ✓ Kicked off First-Year Advising Communication Campaign 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene FYE Taskforce during summer 2016 • Expand to a full year of engagement and a bridge to the second year.
Develop Second-Year Experience (SYE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Proposed recommendations by the University Council on Student Experience and Engagement (UCSEE) for a SYE ✓ Funded a “persistence” scholarship for first-gen and low-income students with 2.0–3.0 GPA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review recommendations from UCSEE report on SYE • Begin implementation of key components of the SYE
Enhanced Advising (Capacity, Integrated Advising Systems, and Proactive Advising)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Completed university-wide training in the Student Success Collaborative (SSC), an advising tool ✓ Initiated SSC advising campaign pilots ✓ Developed four-year degree maps for majors ✓ Conducted survey of advising capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin Monitoring Advising Analytics to Promote Success (MAAPS) project in fall 2016 (See UIA summary for more detail) • Roll out “Early Alert” system to assist advisors in early intervention with students • Develop an initiative to increase advising capacity under a shared funding model • Conduct joint PSU/OSU survey of academic advising
Experiential Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Performed data analysis of student participation ✓ Held Celebrating Undergraduate Excellence event ✓ Revised Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Art (URSA)–Engage program ✓ Initiated Student Success Initiative (SSI) fundraising efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create on-demand experiential learning data reports • Implement PROMISE Internship project: Student Success Program Profiles • Develop better tracking of experiential learning
Transfer Student Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Developed new transfer student summer orientation that will be implemented in summer 2016 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assemble and charge taskforce to look at transfer student support in summer 2016 • Develop a transfer student resource space
Re-design Bacc CORE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Conducted data analysis to identify “roadblock” courses ✓ Submitted APLU grant to support adaptive tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement adaptive learning pilots • Continue partnership with Faculty Senate for Bacc Core review • Focus on strengthening math pathways

Blueprint Area	What's Done?	What's Next?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Held first-ever Adaptive Learning Open House 	
Diversity Support Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Launched Grand Team Research Challenge, an effort to engage students beyond the classroom ✓ Acquired funding to continue Meyer Program to provide access to academic support ✓ Held Celebrating FIRST! events for first-gen college students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose college-based diversity coordinators and advisors • Provide diversity training for advisors
Stabilize and Build Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Expanded duties of Cross Campus Advising Coordinator ✓ Hired a data analyst ✓ Hired an Associate Dean to begin July 1st 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose position for marketing and website communications coordinator • Propose position for Director of FYE and SYE

Short-term Priorities

Facilitate Clear Degree Pathways through Expanded Advising Capacity

Expanding academic advising capacity in identified high-need areas would allow OSU to better meet the needs of low-income, first-generation, and underrepresented students as well as integrate the predictive analytics platform into campus-wide advising practice. Increased advising capacity to lower OSU's current advisor-to-student ratios to 250:1 would enable more personalized, proactive advising interventions to help students get and stay on track for timely degree completion. Current advisor-to-student ratio ranges from 250 to 1 to 500 to 1, depending on the college. Ten to twelve advisor positions would be funded over the next two years using a shared-cost model (40% central funding; 60% college-based funding).

Promote Meaningful Academic Engagement via Curriculum Redesign

Using historical predictive analytics data and failure and withdraw rates, the Division of Undergraduate Studies identified 28 high-enrollment "roadblock" courses correlated to high academic difficulty and attrition. Many of these courses are part of the Baccalaureate Core as well as the introductory levels of math and science. Thousands of students take these courses and struggle each year. Moving forward, these courses will be supported in efforts to redesign their curriculum and incorporate adaptive and personalized learning tools. The intention is to address the variability of learner level and support needed to succeed in these fundamental courses.

Increase College Accessibility with Financial Interventions

Increasing college costs are a challenge for all students but one that particularly affects the retention and success of students from low-income backgrounds. Strategic and timely interventions to bridge a financial gap or address an unexpected expense can keep students enrolled and progressing toward their degrees. We have identified four financial intervention strategies in this area: recruitment scholarships, persistence scholarships, emergency micro-grants, and completion grants and re-enrollment incentives. The first three are currently in place. We hope to create completion grants next year. The Student Success Initiative will provide funding for some of these interventions: recruitment and engagement through experiential learning.

Foster Belonging through Diversity Support Initiatives

The "Speak Out" organized last fall by Oregon State University students of color and other similar campus conversations as well as events occurring on the national and international stage highlight the critical need for institutions to address systemic inequalities, foster an inclusive campus community, and promote a sense of belonging. Drawing from Kuh & O'Donnell's (2013)¹ best practices for eliminating the achievement gap for underrepresented students, the Division of Undergraduate Studies will partner with colleges to embed coordinators or advisors, at the division-level, into the student support services of academic units with responsibility for diversity initiatives and outreach.

¹ Kuh, George D., and Ken O'Donnell. 2013. Ensuring Quality and Taking High-Impact Practices to Scale. Washington, DC: Association of American Colleges and Universities.

The University Innovation Alliance

Participation in the University Innovation Alliance (UIA) provides significant support to OSU student success initiatives by facilitating a meaningful exchange of information through:

- **UIA Site Visits:** Held two to four times per year, the site visits allow space for campus leaders to share lessons learned from successes as well as failures.
- **The UIA Fellows Network:** The UIA Fellows at each campus meet biweekly via video conference call and maintain constant email communication. When an institution faces a challenge or wants to explore a new initiative, their Fellow can reach out to this peer network to quickly learn from the other institutions.

The UIA Funding Model

The University Innovation Alliance is funded through a combination of philanthropic donations and financial contributions from its 11 universities. Each UIA member institution provides a 1:1 cost-share match for the philanthropic funding received.

UNIVERSITY
INNOVATION
ALLIANCE



UIA Member Institutions

- Oregon State University
- UC Riverside
- Arizona State University
- University of Texas at Austin
- University of Kansas
- Iowa State University
- Purdue University
- Michigan State University
- The Ohio State University
- Georgia State University
- University of Central Florida

Summaries of Major UIA Projects

Predictive Analytics

The Alliance's Year 1 project challenged member institutions to utilize predictive analytics to enhance student success.

Progress Made:

- ✓ Selected the Student Success Collaborative advising tool (SSC)
- ✓ Facilitated creation of a custom predictive model
- ✓ Piloted with three academic programs in fall 2015
- ✓ Set-up over 1,000 custom student progress indicators
- ✓ Trained 156 advisors and other campus professionals on use of the tool
- ✓ Developed OSU-specific user's guide and resources website

Next Steps:

- Conduct follow-up discussions with advising teams to plan integration of SSC into current advising practices with goal of campus-wide usage of the SSC platform by fall 2016

Funding provided by the UIA to OSU: \$60,554 from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Monitoring Advising Analytics to Promote Success (MAAPS)

The Year 2 project for the UIA centers on understanding the effect of proactive, intensive academic advising on student success through the MAAPS research study.

Progress Made:

- ✓ Selected individuals to lead OSU's efforts
- ✓ Formed MAAPS Advisory Board
- ✓ Met with project organizers from Georgia State University and lead individuals from the other UIA institutions at the UC-Riverside site visit
- ✓ Prepared first round of applications for Institutional Research Board review
- ✓ Hired 0.5 FTE data analyst and initiated search for 3.0 FTE MAAPS advisors

Next Steps:

- Continue progress on multi-part IRB applications
- Train newly-hired MAAPS advisors
- Select sample of incoming first-generation and/or low-income college freshmen

Funding provided by the UIA to OSU: \$749,388 sub-award from the First in the World Grant (US Dept. of Education) over the four years of the project. \$120,225 received thus far for the first year.

Application of Insights from UIA Collaboration

The UIA identified the following seven domains that drive student success. Through our collaboration with the other UIA institutions, we've gained valuable insights and applied those to student success initiatives at OSU, enabling us to move faster and more efficiently to develop these projects.

Early Guidance: Driving Students to Good Choices around Courses and Majors	Arizona State's example of four-year degree maps was adapted and is currently under development by OSU's Office of the Registrar.
Timely and Effective Interventions When Students are Off Track	Insights gained from UIA institutions ahead of OSU in implementation of EAB's Student Success Collaborative (Georgia State, University of Kansas, and Iowa State) helped us successfully launch this predictive analytics tool , which facilitates more robust advising interventions.
Clarifying Program Requirements to Support Progression	Michigan State's success using process mapping techniques to streamline the onboarding process for new students sparked the OSU to use process mapping to explore barriers to graduation.
Campus Leadership and Commitment	Involvement from multiple levels of the institution from presidents and UIA liaisons to the UIA fellows and project teams provide consistency and leadership to student success initiatives on each campus.
Analytic Infrastructure	Ongoing discussions with peers led the OSU team to reexamine how we collect and share student success data, resulting in a new taskforce to design college student success profiles .
Social and Emotional Support	Ohio State's second-year engagement initiatives are contributing to OSU's emerging campus discussions across academic and student affairs about ways to engage our second-year students.
Financial Support	Georgia State's Panther Retention Grants program was adapted by OSU to provide emergency micro-grants to students who face financial barriers to progression.

The Crucial Role of Data in Student Success Efforts

The following questions are critical drivers behind our use of data to continuously improve student success efforts:

- **What is our landscape?** (What data do we have/where are we? How many students are impacted? Who is not involved?)
- **What can scale?** (Where are we succeeding and where can we grow?)
- **Where are our overlaps and gaps?** (What do we need that we don't have? What is missing? What do we have too much of?)

We are in the process of developing the following centralized data resources to equip the division and the broader OSU community with consistent and timely data about undergraduate student success, and support a culture of evidence-based decision-making:

1. **Program Profiles** – Summary/snapshots of activities and impacts for central and college success programs and co-curricular experiential learning opportunities
2. **Student Success Metrics** – Leading and lagging metrics from all stages of the student life cycle (from application to post-graduation destination) disaggregated by college and key student groups
3. **Centralized CORE reports** – Interactive and longitudinal reports showing impact of student engagement, participation, and experiences
4. **Ad Hoc reports** – Exploration into special topics of interest or relevance given strategic priorities

Tools for Informed Decisions

Data have been and will continue to be fundamental in the Division of Undergraduate Studies' toolbox. This year, we utilized a wide variety of data and tools to help us plan, reflect, and move forward strategically:

- ✓ Predictive analytics
- ✓ CORE reports
- ✓ Adaptive learning platforms
- ✓ Surveys
- ✓ Historical institutional data
- ✓ Local program databases

By providing these data and reports, our goal is to support and increase the campus's ability to engage in meaningful dialog and data-informed planning to advance key student success initiatives and strategic goals.