Development and Implementation of the South Dakota State University Student Success Model

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Overview

- Institutional Profile
- Motivation
- Student Success Task Force
- Steering Committee & Implementation Teams
- Implementation
- Assessment From Pilot Programs
- The Future
Where is South Dakota State University?

Brookings, South Dakota
Population: 22,056

Distance in Miles From:
- San Antonio: 1,100
- Minneapolis: 204
- Denver: 686
- New York: 1,374
- Chicago: 572
- Seattle: 1,474
- Los Angeles: 1,707
- Atlanta: 1,200
South Dakota State University

Institutional Profile

- Four-year, public, land-grant institution
- Founded in 1881
- 10,993 undergraduate students
- 1,732 graduate and professional students
- 2,111 first-time, full-time students in fall 2011
- Offer 69 undergraduate majors, 29 master’s degree programs, 12 Ph.D. programs, and two professional doctorates
- Carnegie Foundation ranking: research university, high research activity
- Division I athletic programs
- Located in Brookings, SD, population 22,056
Motivation

- Enrollment changes
- Loss of interaction between Student Affairs and Academic Affairs
- Change in leadership
- Student engagement data
- Retention data
- Graduation rate
- Social assimilation vs. academic assimilation

Provision and VP for Student Affairs partnered to lead the Student Success Task Force
Student Success Task Force

- Co-Chaired by Provost and VP for Academic Affairs
  - 18 Members – 9 each from academic affairs and student affairs
    - Faculty, Department Heads, Deans, Assistant Deans, Researchers
    - Residential Life, Student Union, New Student Orientation, Student Activities, Registrar, Admissions
Goal

- Develop and implement a plan to enhance student engagement and success
  - Increase freshmen to sophomore retention rate to 80%
  - Increase six year graduation rate to 60%

- Timeframe – August 2009 to March 2010
Initial Assignments

- 4 Teams of 4 with equal representation from Student Affairs and Academic Affairs
  - Identify graduate student success programs
  - Inventory SDSU student success initiatives
  - Research survey options
  - Identify resources on student success
South Dakota State University

Current Student Success Initiatives Timeline
South Dakota State University
Student Success Task Force
Fall 2009
STUDENT SUCCESS STRATEGY MAP
(Five-Year Plan)

Intentional Recruitment Activities (K-12)
- K-12 Programs
- Recruitment Activities
- TRIO Upward Bound
- New Student Orientation
- Summer Bridge Program (Summer 2011 Implementation)

Acclimation (Retention) Activities (Year 1)
- First-Year Experience (Fall 2010 Pilot Implementation)
  - Meet State (extended orientation)
  - First-Year Seminar
  - Common Road
  - Living Communities with Faculty in Residence
  - Learning Communities (with block scheduling)
  - Off-Campus Learning Community
  - Consistent Residence Hall Programs
  - Individual Learning Plans
  - Early Alert System
  - Freshman Advising Center
  - Peer Mentoring Programs
  - Service Learning
- TRIO Student Support Services Program
- Re-admit Success Plan (Spring 2011 Implementation)
- Honors College
- Wintrade Tutoring Program
- Supplemental Instruction for DAW Courses

Alignment (Persistence) Activities (Years 2-3)
- Sophomore-Year Experience (Fall 2011 Implementation)
  - Welcome Back Event
  - Sophomore Interactive Portal
  - Common Read
  - Electronic Academic Road Map
  - Professional Advisor with Faculty Mentor
  - Service Learning/Civic Engagement Initiatives
  - Study Abroad
  - The Lead State Program
  - Faculty/Sophomore Dinners
  - Sophomore Living/Learning Communities
  - Wintrade Tutoring Program
- Undergraduate Research (creative activities)
- Supplemental Instruction for DAW Courses
- Extension Grade Contract (Fall 2012 Implementation)
- Transfer Program (Fall 2011 Implementation)
- Internship Program
- Common Road
- Undergraduate Research Symposium
- Capstone Courses
- Career & Placement Center

Transition Activities (Year 4)
- Potential Junior-Year Experience (Fall 2012 Implementation)
- Potential Senior-Year Experience (Fall 2013 Implementation)

SIDENOTES
The * denotes programs that will be required for all first year students.
The # denotes programs or initiatives that don't currently exist or could be further enhanced, but would be designed to specifically address student success.

TIMELINE
The initial implementation of this model will occur across a five-year continuum, between the Fall of 2010 and the Fall of 2014.
Implementation Teams

- Steering Committee (12)
- Common Read
- Early Alert
- First Year Advising
- First Year Seminar
- Individual Learning Plan
- Learning Communities
- Sophomore Year

- Living Learning/Residential
- Meet State (expanded orientation)
- Re-admit Success
- New Student Orientation
- Summer Bridge
- Supplemental Instruction

Note: Each program must have assessment plan
Common Read

- Book selected by committee and read in various courses, as well as by other campus and community groups
- Participation
  - 1,421 students in 2010
  - 2,059 students in 2011
- Full implementation = mandatory participation for all first-year students, possibly through a first-year experience course
- Supporting activities include events, films, and lectures
- Housed in the Honors College
Common Read for 2011-2012

- Outcasts United
- Open to all students with similar cadre of freshman being targeted across disciplines.
- Griffith Honors Lecture, Coach Luma Mufleh; also author Warren St. John
- Partnerships with refugee and immigrant communities; also SDSU and Brookings soccer.
- Community and public school connections

- [http://www.fugeesfamily.org/](http://www.fugeesfamily.org/)
- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ItUYQhQ_CHg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ItUYQhQ_CHg)
Outcasts United

- Outcasts is the story of the ‘Fugees’ -- an all-refugee soccer team from a small town in rural Georgia.

- **Central themes:**
  - ‘super diversity’
  - Teamwork
  - Community
  - global insights
  - Change

- Parallels with the experience of college freshmen.

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**Common Read Events Fall 2011**

- ‘Kicking it’ event: 9/20 7 pm Frost Arena
- SDWAC Presents Mexican Consul General on immigration issues: 9/26 7 pm USU VBR
- Common Read Day at SDSU soccer: 9/30
- Film ‘God Grew Tired of Us’: 10/3 7 pm SDAM
- Hunger Banquet/Community Night: 10/11 7 pm USU VBR
- Common Read soccer clinic: 10/16
- Outcasts author Warren St. John: 10/26 7 PM PAC
- Griffith Lecture: Coach Luma Mufleh: 11/9 7 pm Frost Arena
Early Alert

- Early intervention allows instructors to inform advisors and other key staff about challenges students are having in the classroom
- 2011-2012 Pilot Program includes 15 courses
- Alerts are submitted week 1 through approximately week 13
  - Follow-up by academic advisors, tutoring staff, residential life staff, ROTC staff, readmit success staff, and athletics
  - Fall 2011 = 4,157 alerts created for 1,649 students
  - Housed in First-Year Advising Center, University College
First-Year Seminar

- Currently 30+ seminars at SDSU
- Implemented as a 2-credit Institutional Graduation Requirement beginning Fall 2012
- Focus on academic success and social transition, with additional information based on sub-population needs

- Ongoing training program for all FYS faculty throughout the spring 2012 semester
- Ongoing assessment of course syllabi in future years
- Housed in Academic Affairs
Individual Learning Plans and Mentoring

- Learning Plans and Mentoring are housed independently in various departments across campus
- Summer 2011: Team of individuals who work with peer leaders met to coordinate training and implementation efforts

- Current peer mentoring/leadership programs
  - TRiO SSS
  - Office of Multicultural Affairs
  - Readmit Success Program
  - First-Year Seminars
  - Living Learning Communities
  - Lead State
  - HEROH
  - Tutoring/SI
Living Learning Communities

- Social and academic integration
- Current LLCs
  - Ag-Bio
  - ARC I (Academic Residential Community)
  - ARC II
  - Engineering
  - Health Professionals
  - Honors
  - Wellness
- Future Additions = Themed Housing
- Housed in Residential Life with support from academic units
Meet State

- A coordinated effort to welcome new students and their family members to campus
- Programming and marketing during move-in weekend and the first six weeks of the fall semester

Activities

- Move-in support
- Information about campus resources
- Welcome picnic
- Residence hall meetings/activities
- Campus & Community Fall Festival
- Convocation

Housed in the Division of Student Affairs with support from academic units
Summer Bridge

- Six-week program offers summer courses and activities for incoming first-year students
- Help students become acclimated to campus life, gain access to student support programs, and learn effective academic skills
- Complete pre-general education courses prior to fall semester
- Summer 2011 Pilot: 22 students participated and 20 are still enrolled
- GPAs range from 1.5 to 3.6
- Summer 2012 = expect 100+ students
- Housed in University College in collaboration with the Division of Student Affairs
Supplemental Instruction

- Peer-led review sessions for students
- Focus on increasing the number of courses supported by SI and the number of higher risk students who participate

- Pilot 2011-2012 with full implementation by 2013-2014
- Fall 2010 Numbers
  - 6 courses
  - 925 students, 3,364 visits
- Fall 2011 Numbers
  - 9 courses
  - 1,479 students, 7,770 visits
- Joint coordination between TRiO SSS and University College
Assessment

- Developed a reporting process
-Assigned liaisons to help Implementation Teams develop assessment plans
- Assisted Implementation Teams with data collection
- Worked to identify common themes in assessment plans
Piloted Programs 2010-11

- First Year Advising Center
- Learning Communities/Block Scheduling
- New Student Orientation
- Re-admit Success Program
First-Year Advising Center

- 2010-2011 Pilot: History, Psychology, Pre-economics
- 2011-2012 = Full implementation
- Advise all first-time, first-year students except pre-nursing and pre-pharmacy and all deciding students
- Coordinate Early Alert Program and CSI
- Housed in University College
First-Year Advising Center Outcomes

- **Fall 2010 Outcomes**
  - 89% of students persisted to spring semester
  - 47% of students changed their major

- **Fall 2011 Outcomes**
  - 92.5% of students persisted to spring semester
  - % of students who change their major will be calculated at the end of the academic year
Learning Communities

- Block scheduling with two or three linked courses
- Fall 2010 Pilot
  - 18 learning communities serving 372 students
  - 7 academic departments
  - 2 living learning communities
- Fall 2011 expansion
- Training offered spring 2011 for all faculty teaching learning community courses to assist with concept and activity integration
- Collaborative efforts between Academic Affairs and the Registrar’s Office
Learning Communities Outcomes

- Fall 2010 Pilot
  - 351 (94.3%) of 372 students persisted to spring 2011 and 311 (83.6%) registered for fall 2011
  - By end of year one, 312 participants were in good academic standing, 23 were on academic probation, and 16 were suspended
  - Average fall term GPA for participants = 2.98; average spring term GPA for participants = 3.05
New Student Orientation

- Purpose of the 2-day program is to equip students with the information and experience necessary to succeed on campus

- Revisions for 2011
  - Increased academic messages by adding an address from the Provost and an Academics @ SDSU session
  - Revised schedule to start later on Day 1 and to end with course registration on Day 2, allowing families to limit overnight stay to one night
  - Added a 2-day session in July
  - Strengthened mandatory nature of NSO
  - Scheduled most advising sessions in computer labs to increase student exposure to WebAdvisor

- Housed in the Division of Student Affairs
New Student Orientation Outcomes

- Identify resources relative to student success
  - “I feel knowledgeable about the campus resources highlighted throughout Orientation.”: 94% responded 4 or 5 (agree or strongly agree) on a Likert scale

- Gain exposure to academic resources, plan course schedule, and register for classes via WebAdvisor
  - “I learned about academic resources available to SDSU students”: 89.5% responded 4 or 5 on a Likert scale and 86% could list at least one academic resource learned about at NSO

- Evaluate SDSU’s “fit” with student needs and expectations
  - “After attending Orientation, I’m satisfied that SDSU is the right university for me.”: 93.3% responded 4 or 5 on a Likert scale
Readmit Success Program

- Population: Students who are readmitted through a petition process after academic suspension
- Mandatory enrollment in UC 011 – Strategies for Academic Success
  - 1-credit, pass/fail course
  - Emphasis on cognitive/behavioral changes vs. study skills
  - Attend 3 one-on-one meetings with instructor, 2 workshops, and utilize at least 6 resources from a select list
  - Must successfully pass the course to take classes at any Regental institution
- Peer mentoring
- Intrusive academic advising
- Housed in University College
Readmit Success Program Outcomes

- Fall 2010 Pilot
  - Average term GPA of 2.144
  - 84.6% of students persisted to spring 2011 and registered for Fall 2011

- Fall 2011 full implementation
  - 99 students participated in the program
  - Of students who participated in the program
    - Average term GPA of 2.022
    - 70.7% improved their cumulative GPA
    - 79% were retained to the spring semester
    - 76% passed UC 011
Student Success Model

- Implementation Continues
- Assessment Data Collected After Each Semester
- Programs Continue to Expand
South Dakota State University

The Future

- Sophomore Student Success
  - Intentional Engagement
    - Civic Engagement/Service Learning
    - Study Abroad
    - Student Activities & Involvement
    - Undergraduate Research
  - Sophomore Living Learning Communities
    - Themed Housing
  - Second Year Developmental Advising
    - Intentional Intervention For Struggling Students
Summary

- SDSU Student & Academic Affairs joint leadership
  - Student Engagement
  - Student Retention
  - Graduation Rates
- Year One - Task Force (2009-10)
- Year Two - Implementation Teams (2010-11)
  - Some pilot programs
- Full Implementation & Assessment
- Second Year Success Model – in progress
Questions

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Thank You!