Entering Community College Students: Consciously Creating Critical Connections

PRESENTATION EXERCISE

The following items are from the Survey of Entering Student Engagement (*SENSE*). During the presentation, you will be asked to predict the responses students gave on selected items. You also will be asked to respond to several open ended questions as we progress through the session. This exercise is yours to keep, so feel free to use the spaces below each section to jot down questions and ideas to take back to your college.

Making Early Connections

The Early Connections benchmark includes items such as "The very first time I came to this college I felt welcome" and "A college staff member helped me determine whether I qualified for financial assistance".

Which gender subgroup (males or females) do you predict reported higher levels of engagement on the Early Connections benchmark? _____

The data say: _____

Questions you want to take back to your college:

_____

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_____

Academic Advising: Creating a Clear Academic Plan and Pathway

Five items related to academic advising are listed below. For which items do you predict that 60% or more of students reported agreeing or strongly agreeing to the statement? Circle your selections.

A) An advisor helped me to identify the courses I needed to take during my first semester/quarter

B) I was able to meet with an academic advisor at times convenient for me

C) An advisor helped me to select a course of study, program, or major

D) An advisor helped me to set academic goals and to create a plan for achieving them

E) A college staff member talked with me about my commitments outside of school (work, children, dependents, etc.) to help me figure out how many courses to take

The data say: _____

Questions you want to take back to your college:

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Orientation

What percentage of students reported that they participated in on-campus orientation prior to beginning the semester or quarter at the college? _____%

The data say: _____%

What percentage of students reported that they were **not** aware of a college orientation (online or on-campus) offered by the college? _____%

The data say: _____%

Questions you want to take back to your college:

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Student Success Courses

What percentage of students reported that they were enrolled in a course specifically designed to teach skills and strategies to help students succeed in college (e.g., a college success or student success course)? _____%

The data say: _____%

Questions you want to take back to your college:

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Learning Communities

What percentage of students reported that they were enrolled in an organized "learning community" (two or more courses that a group of students take together)? _____%

The data say: _____%

Questions you want to take back to your college:

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