



Assessing the Impact of an Academic Recovery Program

Christine C. Murphy, PhD

Academic Success Center

Thomas A. Carnot – Data Analyst

Elizabeth G. McWilliams – Academic Coach

M. Elaine Richardson - Director

Academic Success Center



Probation at Clemson University

- Any student with <2.0 cumulative GPA is placed on Academic Probation
- Approx. 9% of Freshman cohort and 18% of transfer cohort each fall are placed on academic probation
- “Students on academic probation are expected to participate in the Academic Recovery Program”



Academic Eligibility Evaluation

- Students who have completed fewer than 3 semesters
- Students who have completed at least 3 semesters
- Students who have been suspended
- Students returning on appeal

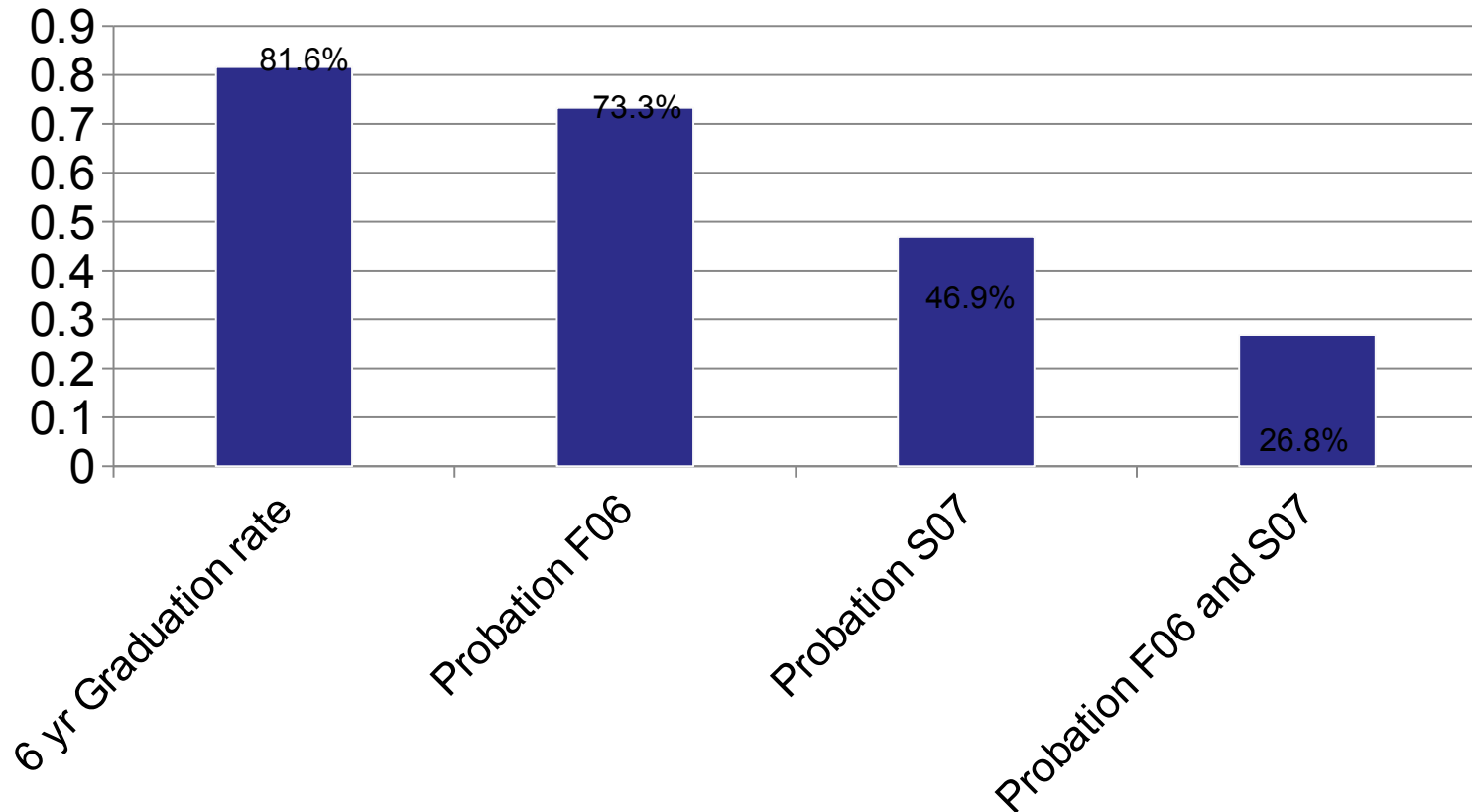
Academic Eligibility

- Three options to remain academically eligible:
 - Clear probation (cGPA >2.0)
 - OR Meet mGPA for the credit level
 - OR Pass at least 12 credit hours with a 2.4 or higher sGPA
- Academic Suspension – 1 semester
- Academic Dismissal – 1 year w/ readmission by appeal only
- Permanent Academic Dismissal

Academic Forgiveness

- New students will have 3 courses (grade of D or F) for which they can request forgiveness during their time at Clemson
- IF the course is required for their major, they must retake the course at Clemson or forgiveness will not be applied.
- The forgiven grades will remain on the transcript, but are not used to calculate the GPA

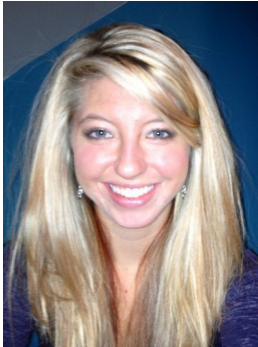
Probation and Graduation Success Rates for 2006 Cohort at Clemson University



Probation Fee

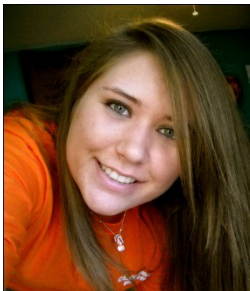
- \$100 each semester on probation/student
- Total annual budget ~\$80K
 - Administrative support \$30K
 - CU1010 Instructor Stipends \$20K
 - Tiger Success Facilitator Stipends \$5K
 - Books/Supplies \$5K
 - Probation Workshops \$5K
 - Success Summit \$5K
 - Peer Mentors \$5K
 - Additional Academic Coaches \$5K

Success Stories



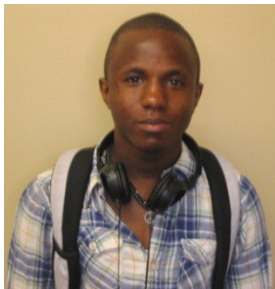
Abby – Junior transfer student, Food Science

After my first semester at Clemson, my GPA fell from a 3.6 to a 1.4. I failed Math and made a D in chem. I was extremely depressed and embarrassed by my failure. But after I signed up for CU101 I finally realized; I was truly trying to study. I just wasn't studying in the right way. Light bulb!



Charley – Senior, AVS with concentration in Pre-vet

My parents convinced me to give it another shot, one last semester to see if I can change so I joined a Tiger Success group, reluctantly. I thought I had been studying correctly and didn't think that they would have anything more to offer... I WAS WRONG!



Devon – Sophomore, Psychology with minor in Comm Studies

There were times where I wanted to transfer, and other times where I wanted to quit. Although I knew I was capable of more as a student, I simply couldn't grasp the motivation that I needed. That is until I started working with the staff of the ASC.



Academic Recovery Program

Components include...

- Academic Recovery Team
- Workshop at beginning of each fall and spring semester – mandatory attendance
- Success Summit in spring semester
- Participation on one of these programs is required:
 - CU 1010 special sections for students on probation
 - Tiger Success
 - Workshop option
 - Academic coaching



CU SUCCESS

(CU 1010)

- CU 1010 is a graded, interactive, 2 credit course to provide the skills and resources to be successful.
- ONLY for transfer students on probation after 1 semester OR classified as a freshman on probation (and 1st semester sophomores if space is available).
- 3-4 sections each fall and 8-10 sections each spring

Tiger Success

- Tiger Success is a semester-long program that meets once a week to provide guidance, support and accountability for ANY student on probation
- It is an opportunity for students to demonstrate commitment to their academic success
- 6-10 sections of Tiger Success are available



Success Summit

- Conference-style program
 - Saturday early in spring semester
 - ~3 hour commitment
- Components
 - Keynote speaker
 - Choice of academic skills workshops
 - Lunch with choice of discussion topics by table
 - Panel of students who have overcome probation
 - Closing and door prizes



Workshops Option

- Attend a minimum of 5 academic skills workshops sponsored by the ASC
- Over 45 workshops each semester
- For each workshop, have the presenter initial the workshop form AND satisfactorily complete (80%) of a short quiz on-line

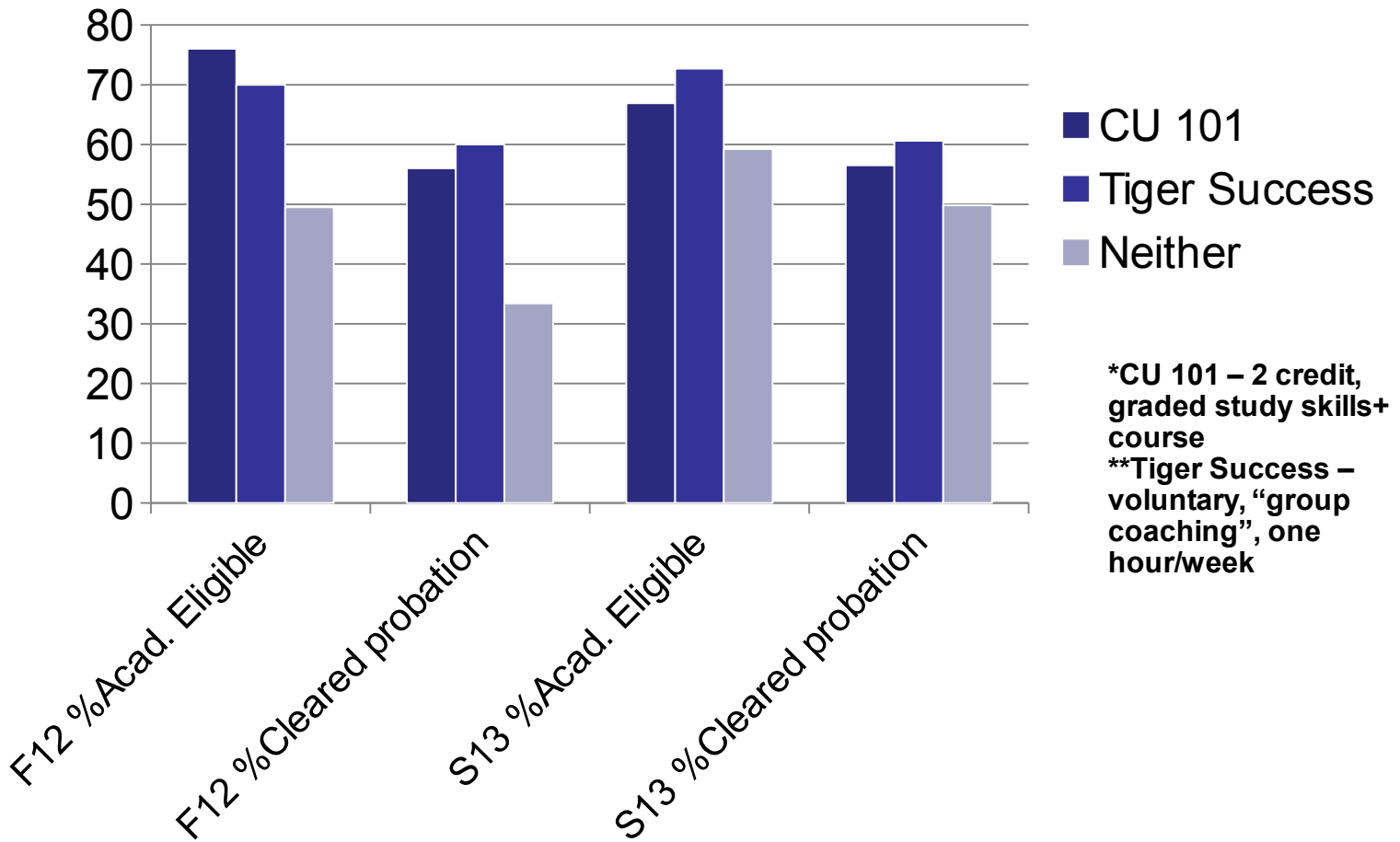


Academic Coaching

- Regularly scheduled, one-on-one meetings
- Assistance in organizing and planning the semester, goal-setting
- Hold students accountable to an academic plan
- Help with specific academic issues (test-taking, time management, etc...)
- Referral to other appropriate campus resources

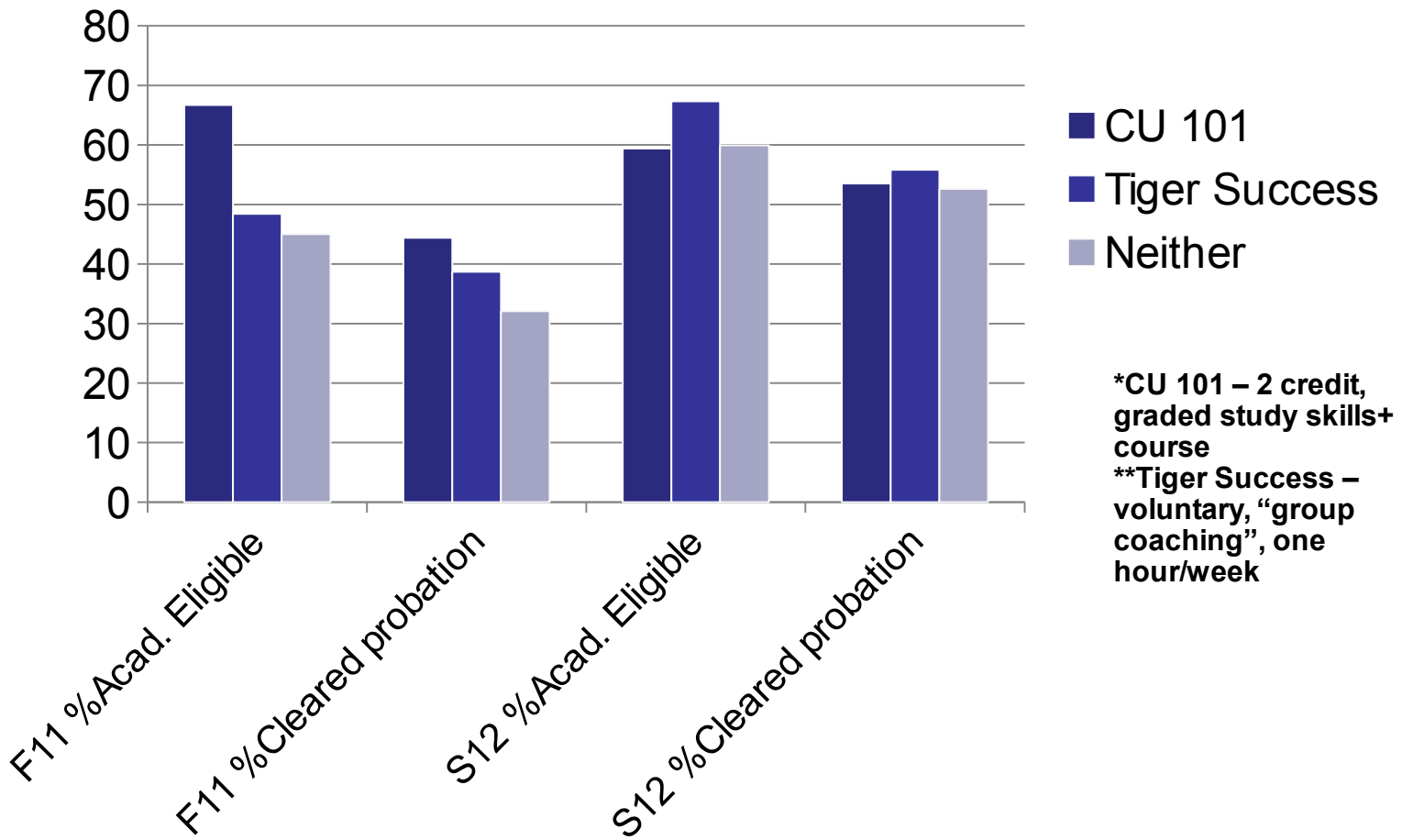
Data Collection and Results

Impact of 2 Programs for Probation Students at Clemson University (2012-13)





Impact of 2 Programs for Probation Students at Clemson University (2011-2012)



CU 1010 and Tiger Success Qualitative Assessment

Questions from end of semester evaluation (S2013)	TS	CU
....increased my academic motivation	4.33	4.38
....helped me improve my study skills	4.33	4.54
....increased my self-confidence and self-esteem about my academic performance	4.25	4.51
....helped me make progress in getting off academic probation	4.42	4.58
....has provided me with skills to help me become an independent learner	3.92	4.51

5 pt Likert scale, 5=strongly agree

Impact of Workshop Attendance on Grades

Bonus Option for Introductory Engineering Course

	Course Grade	Semester GPA	n
Fall 2011 (n=955, 2.5 workshops attended on average, p<0.00001)			
Participated in workshops	2.96	3.21	407
Did not participate	2.68	2.76	548
Difference in outcome	0.28	0.45	
Fall 2012 (n=1181, 3.0 workshops attended on average, p<0.00001)			
Participated in workshops	3.13	3.31	406
Did not participate	2.37	2.75	775
Difference in outcome	0.76	0.56	



Impact of Regular Academic Coaching with Probation Students (n=774)

Spring 2013	Academic Coaching	No Academic Coaching
Cleared Probation	48.1%	40.6%
Academically Eligible	65.4%	50.6%

Success Summit 2012: an academic recovery program for students on academic probation

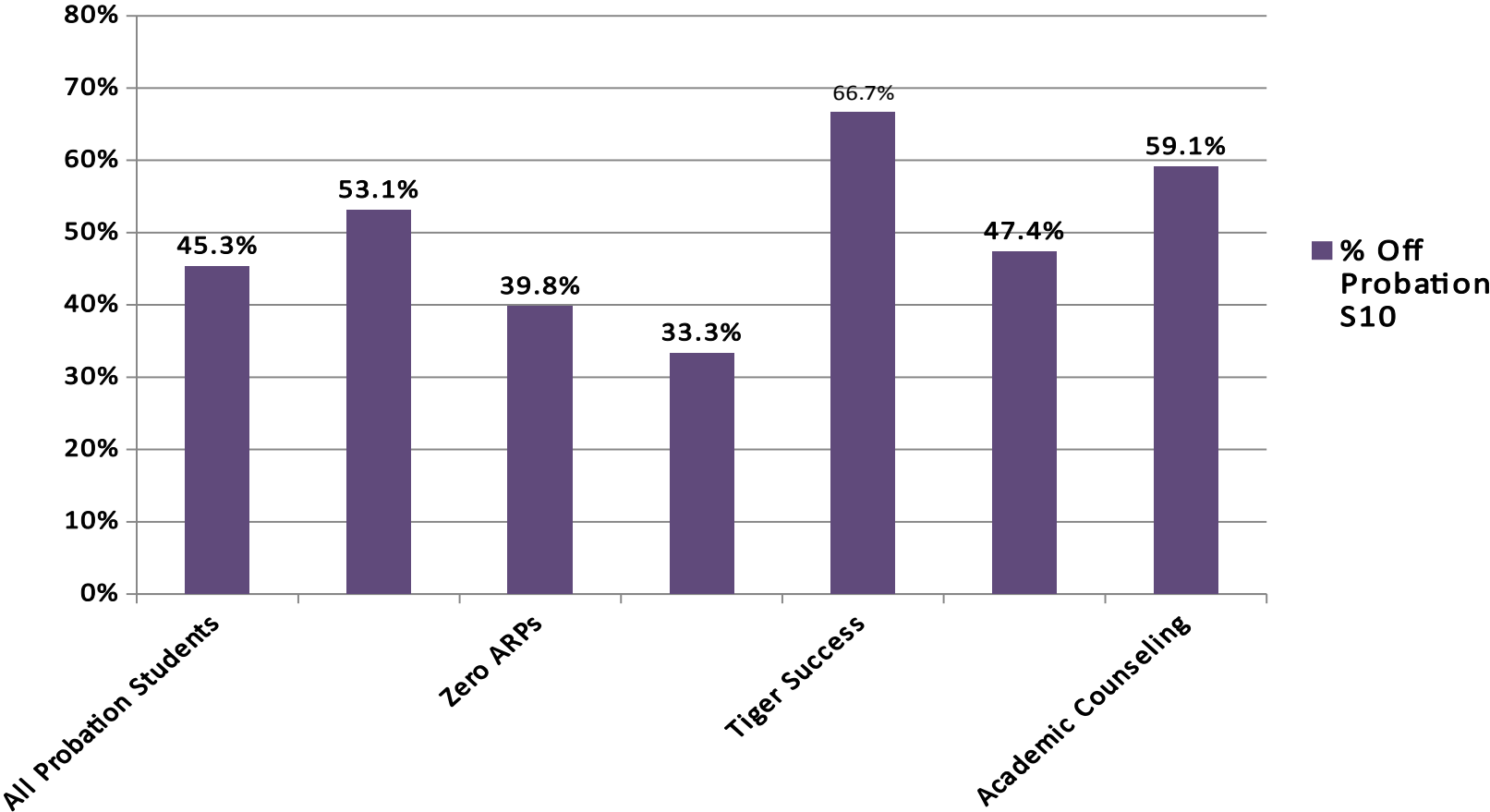
Status	Number of students	Semester GPA
Attended	108	2.25
Did not attend	746	1.88
Registered/did not attend	249	1.90
Did not register	497	1.86
S12 Probation Students	854	1.92

Success Summit Qualitative Assessment

Summit Component	*
Keynote Speaker	4.5
Session I: Lori's Five Favs	4.69
Session II: Get Organized!	4.8
Session III: Extreme Academic Makeover	4.53
Session IV: Communicating Effectively with Your Professor	4.8
Table Talk Lunch	4.72

*5 pt Likert Scale, 5=Extremely helpful

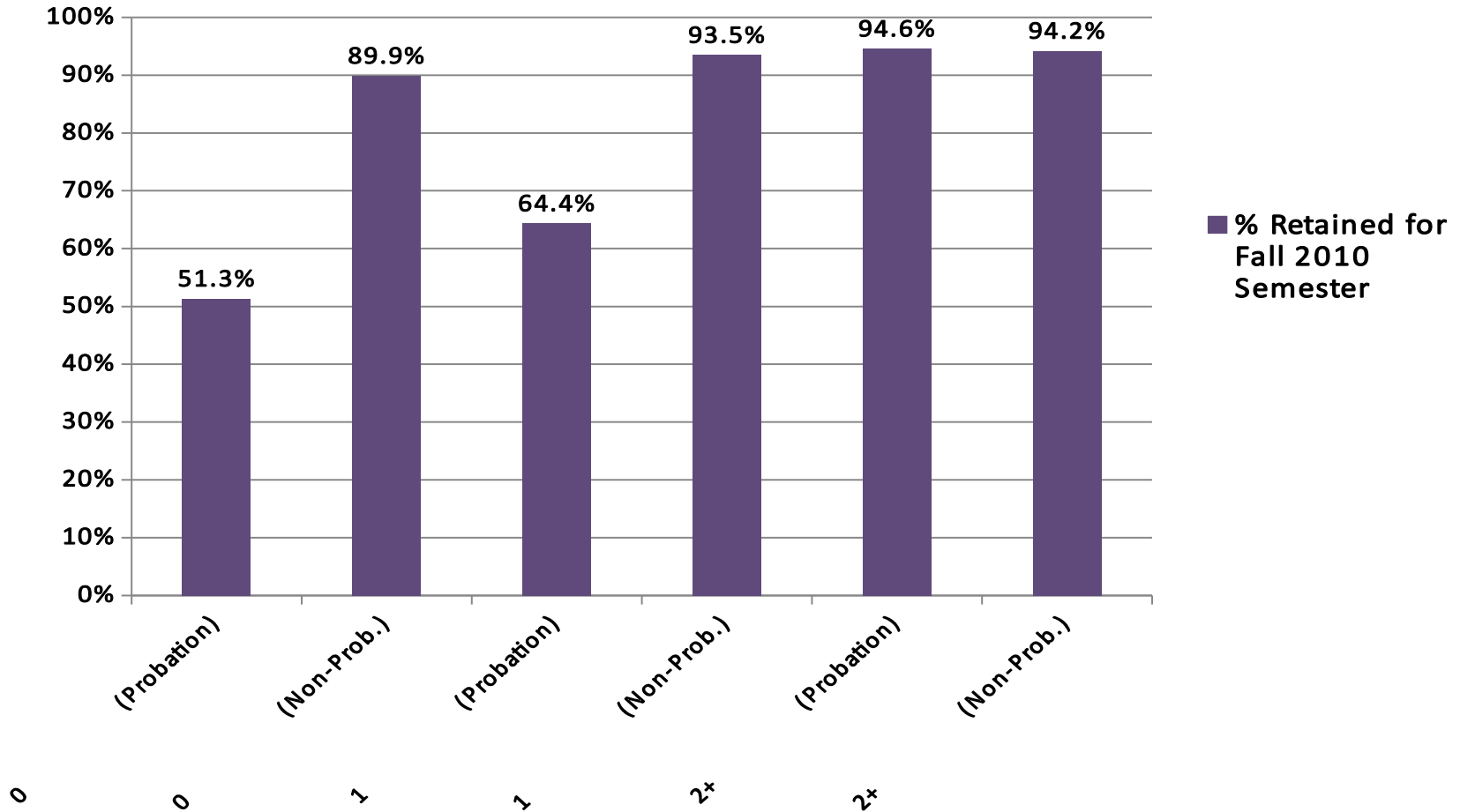
Impact of Academic Recovery Programs on First Semester Probation Students at Clemson University (2009 Cohort)



2009 Cohort 4-Year Graduation Rates

- Can NOT discuss actual graduation rate until 6-year rate is released by IR
- Those on probation at the end of their first semester have a 4-year graduation rate less than half that of the overall cohort
- Those still on probation after 3 semesters (end Fall 2010) have a 4-year graduation rate one tenth of the overall rate

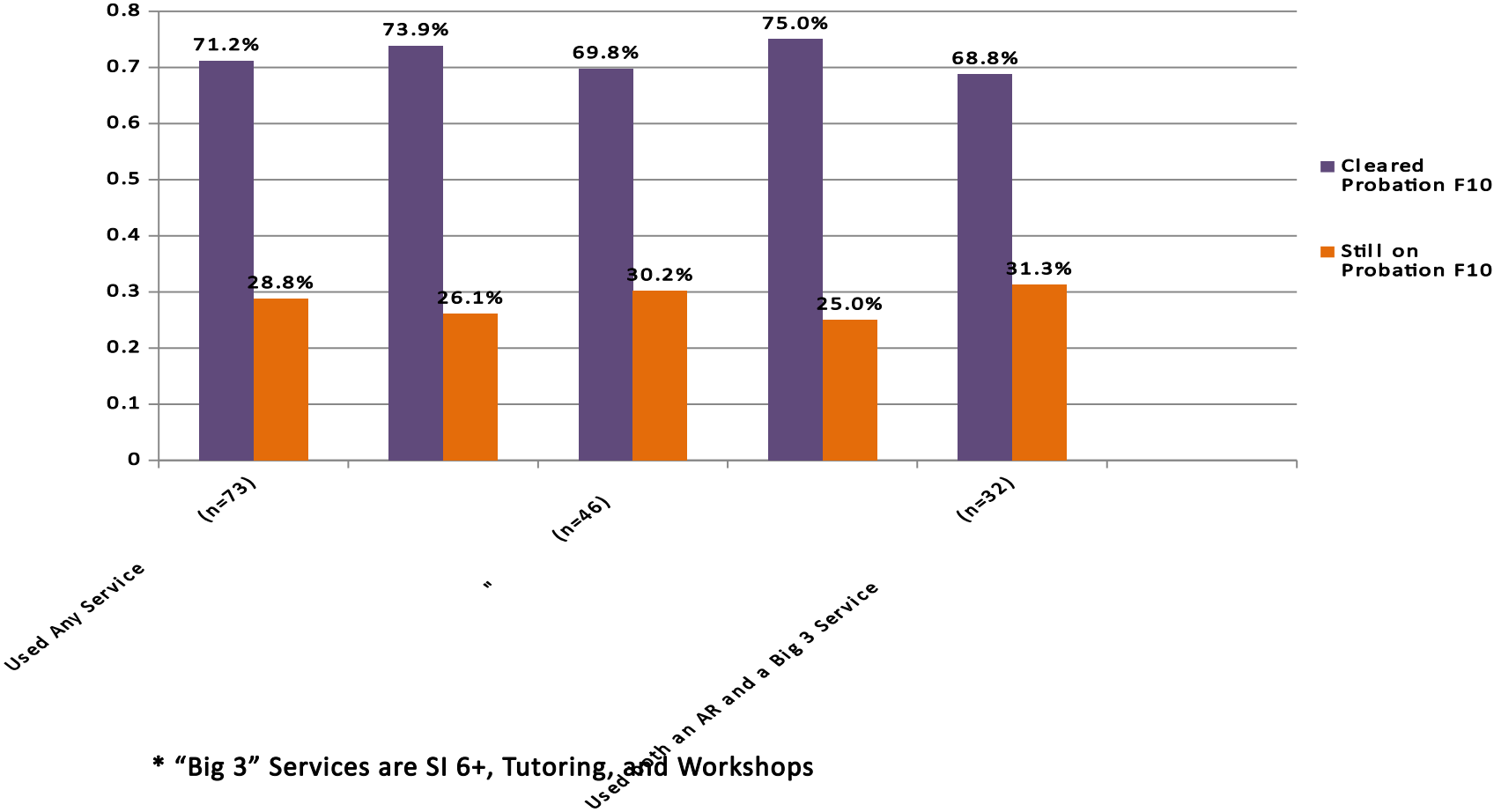
Impact of Total # Services Used in First Year on 2009 Cohort at Clemson University (SI 6+, Tutoring, and Workshops)



*Probation Status based on whether or not the students were on probation after the first fall semester.

**Overall First Year Retention Rate 2009 Cohort was 88.9%.

Percentage of first semester probation students who have not yet graduated (S13) but are still currently enrolled



Conclusions

- Most students who are in academic difficulty are looking for help
- Academic recovery programs can be effective
- A variety of programs gives students options II makes them feel more in control
- 4-yr graduation rate doesn't tell entire story
- You can't save them all.....



What are other institutions
doing?



Programs to retain at-risk students and/or probation students

- Morehead State University
 - One credit course: Learning for Success
 - Action Plan
 - Attend one workshop
 - Meet at least two times with advisor and professors
 - Meet at least 2 times with peer academic coach
 - Documented study/tutoring times
- Richland College (Probation 1 and probation 2)
 - Self-assessment
 - Meet with probation advisor
 - Possible reduced course load



Programs to retain at-risk students and/or probation students

- Baylor University
 - Complete study strategies inventory
 - Complete self-assessment form
 - Develop academic improvement plan
 - Meet with academic support program advisor or mentor to implement plan
- Indiana University (Phoenix Program)
 - Steps to Success meeting at beginning of semester
 - Academic advising/probation contract
 - Success Seminar class



Programs to retain at-risk students and/or probation students

- Lamar University (mandatory)
 - Proactive Advising for Student Success (PASS)
 - Contract for Success (individualized –may include...)
 - Learning/study skills course
 - Tutoring sessions
 - Workshops
 - Referrals to campus resources
 - Career counseling
- Central Connecticut State University (mandatory)
 - Mandatory intervention
 - 4 options
 - Coaching
 - Small Group session (Making the Dean's List – goals, study skills)
 - 3.5 hour clinic prior to start of school
 - Workshops



Programs to retain at-risk students and/or probation students

- State University of NY Canton (mandatory)
 - 3 Levels –low, medium or high intervention
 - Low – meet with academic advisor, tutoring lab 3 hours/week
 - Medium – + 2 workshops
 - High - + weekly meeting with probation mentor
- Virginia Tech (optional)
 - ASPIRE (Academic Success through Personal Investment and Responsibility) -13 weeks
 - Kick Start – 4 week program
 - Making the Grade (2.5 hour workshop)
 - S2C2 – Student Success Center Coaching



- What's next for us?
 - Change “expected to participate” to “required to participate”
 - Hold on registration for next semester
 - Other?
 - Options for students who continue to struggle
 - Mandatory coaching/peer academic coaching?
 - Others? What are you doing at your institution?



CLEMSON

ACADEMIC SUCCESS CENTER



Our goal is to help students be successful and graduate!