Creating Pathways: Successfully Navigating the Student Success Agenda

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Pathway or Maze?

- The Challenge: helping students to smoothly transition to Mt. SAC
- 2 major pathways for 2 different student groups
  - Recent High School Graduates from local feeder high schools
  - Other First Time College Students
PATHWAY 1: Feeder High School Students

- Continuous visitations to district feeder high schools by Mt. SAC High School Outreach Team
- **Cash 4 College**: Onsite financial aid conference; direct online assistance with FAFSA application, AB 540/California Dream Act assistance; families welcome, presentations in English, Spanish, Chinese
- **Connect 4**: Assessment, specialized orientation, initial electronic ed plans, priority registration
- **Summer Bridge**: Recruitment by High School Outreach; over 1,200 apply for 350 seats; 6-week summer program consisting of basic skills class + counseling class + community class
- **Step to College** (non-Summer Bridge): 1 unit concentrated Orientation to College classes; includes special activities
- **New Student Welcome**: coordinated by Student Life; student-to-student dialog; mini faculty lectures; campus resources
High School Pathway: **Summer Bridge Program**
High School Pathway: **Bridge Parent Orientation (Spanish)**
Summer Bridge Pass Rates

- Arithmetic: Bridge 89%, Non-Bridge 76%
- Basic Math: Bridge 89%, Non-Bridge 68%
- Basic Writing: Bridge 94%, Non-Bridge 79%
- English Devel: Bridge 91%, Non-Bridge 76%
- ENG below 1A: Bridge 84%, Non-Bridge 68%
High School Pathway: **Connect 4**
Specialized Orientation
Connect 4 Persistence

- Fall to Spring: 84% Connect 4, 72% Non-Connect 4
- Spring to Fall: 77% Connect 4, 61% Non-Connect 4
Connect 4 Sample H.S. Success Rates

Term GPA | Units Earned
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2.05 | 2.11 | 2.33 | 6.2 | 7.91 | 9.73
Non C-4 | C-4 | Bridge
Connect 4 Sample H.S. Basic Skills Pass Rates 1st Semester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Non C-4</th>
<th>C-4</th>
<th>Bridge</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>76%</td>
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PATHWAY 2: Other 1st-Time Students

- **411 Information Sessions:**
  - Understanding matriculation steps before registering
  - Financial aid application assistance
  - Placement testing preparation
  - Review of prerequisites
  - Navigating portal

- **Mandatory Assessment**
  - Computerized assessment (writing sample; 4 levels of math)
  - Website tools for preparation
  - Online appointment scheduling
  - Online access to results

- **Mandatory Orientation**
  - In person session includes small group counseling
  - Online option
411 Sessions: Learning to Navigate the Student Portal
Educational Planning

- **Electronic Educational Plan**
  - Degree Works software: Mountie Academic Plan (MAP)
  - Interactive tool for students that enables students to track academic progress
  - Functions available for students:
    - **Degree Audit**: "Real-time" information on student proximity to degree completion; identifies which classes count for specific university transfer requirements
    - "What If" scenarios: allow students to input various educational options to determine courses required for various majors, degrees, certificates
  - Counselor and student interaction:
    - Students develop initial ("abbreviated") education plans with counselor approval
    - Students and counselors work together to develop extended ("comprehensive") educational plans, including semester-to-semester course plans tied to student’s declared course of study.
  - Access and maintenance of files:
    - Educational plans and counseling notes are stored electronically and can be accessed by students and or other counselors.
Implementing Electronic Educational Plans

Critical Steps | Critical Decisions
1. Decide on a **catalog year** from which to build
2. Develop a process to **determine equivalencies**
3. **Scribe the equivalencies** and catalogs (annually)
4. Coordinate with IT on **technical implementation**
5. Utilize counseling faculty to **test system** and develop training modules
6. **Pilot test** implementation
7. Develop a **marketing and “roll-out” plan** and timeline
8. Considerations:
   - Limit student access to degree audit and “what if” scenarios?
   - Should students be able to do the ed planning on their own?
   - How to integrate with Orientations and Counseling sessions?
Specialized Programs

- **Freshmen Experience**
  (Learning Communities)
  - Cohort groups: English or Math paired with a Counseling class or Study Skills class and a Community class [14 cohorts; 736 students]
  - Study groups; tutoring; peer advising; counseling; computer lab

- **Other Specialized Programs** (Referrals through Connect 4 and 411 Information Sessions)
  - **Aspire**: African American students; learning communities with cultural emphasis
  - **Arise**: Asian Pacific American students; learning communities; study hall; group counseling; language seminars; Writing Center tutoring
  - **EOPS/ACES (TRiO SSS)**: Low income, first generation counseling and tutoring support
  - **DSPS**: Accommodations, specialized instructional support, counseling
  - **Honors**: Specialized course sections and advisement
Probation Intervention

- Compliant with new requirements – 2 consecutive semesters on probation (Title 5 58108; BOGW SAP eligibility requirements)
- Probation Interventions are monitored and maintained by Counseling
- **First Semester Intervention**
  - Students on first semester probation
  - Notification to student that registration priority changed to last date
  - Student required to complete online Student Success Workshop
- **Second Semester Intervention**
  - Students continuing on probation
  - Notification to student that registration priority changed to last date
  - Students are required to complete an in-person Student Success Workshop
Online Tools

- **Roadmap**: Online guide to assist students with accessing information on available resources at Mt. SAC – Get Started; Get Help; Get Tutoring; Get Involved; Get a Plan; Get Going
- **e-Brochure**: Students develop a personalized brochure regarding services and educational programs
- **Secrets to Success Videos**: Counseling, Financial Aid, Disabled Students, Student Life
- **Online Counseling**: chat/Q&A with counselors
- **Online Financial Aid**: Q&A with financial aid advisor
- **Educational Planning Tutorial**: video explanation/guide on how to use the online ed plan – Mountie Academic Plan
Upcoming

- Early Alert System
- Online Multiple Measures Survey for Placement
- Modification of Writing Assessment Rubric
- Auto Award of Degrees and Certificates
- Expansion of Financial Literacy Workshops
- Development of Faculty “Tool Kits”
  - “Advisement to Go” packages to assist faculty to share information with students related to educational planning; available services; deadline dates for transfer, scholarships