

Achieving the Dream Initiative Newsletter

Issue 1

November 2, 2011

Student Success Committee/Core Team:

Committee Co-Chairs

Jess Guerra
Marcy Drummond

Membership

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Rita Weingourt
Carole Anderson
Jan Gangel-Vasquez
Allison Tom-Miura
Leticia Barajas
Lori Hunter
Lorna Bukasa
Lourdes Brent
Dorothy Smith
Ramon Castillo

Resource Panel

Anna Badalyan
Cecilia Kwan
David Ysaïs
Derek Majors
Donna Lichtman
Joseph Guerrieri

Data Team Task Force:

Co-Chairs

Anna Badalyan
Marcy Drummond

Membership

Chini Johnson-Taylor
Diane Murphy
John McDowell
Kelly Dozier
Lori Hunter
Luis Dorado
Mara Bentley
Martin Diaz
Mauricio Zelaya
Nii-Boye Simpson-Rodgers
Simona Daniels, ASO
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ATD Coaches:

Dr. Ted Wright,
Data Coach
Christine McPhail,
Leadership Strategy Coach

The Achieving the Dream (ATD) Initiative is currently in “full throttle”. In fall year--the beginning of the planning year of the initiative--the two ATD Teams (Student Success Committee/Core Team and Data Team) have been busy laying the framework for the development the ATD Implementation Plan. Here are a few highlights of their activities and resulting outcomes.

Student Success Committee/Core Team Activities and Outcomes

ATD Website. An ATD Initiative website has been created with many materials and resources available on Achieving the Dream, the activities of the ATD Teams, student success data and resources.

We are on the web!

<http://college.lattc.edu/atd>

Student Success Vision and Philosophy. A draft of a LATTC Shared Student Success Vision and Philosophy has been developed and approved by the team as follows.

Shared Vision of Student Success

We, as faculty and staff, are committed to working in partnership with our students, helping them develop and strengthen their critical thinking, communication, leadership, academic and technical skills. They will receive clear and accurate information, support and mentoring from the LATTC faculty and staff, empowering them to achieve their academic, career and life goals.



Shared Philosophy for Student Success

We believe in students and their inherent talents and abilities. We are committed to creating an environment that is dedicated to ensuring student success. We partner with students so they are invested as independent life-long learners. We continually assess what works by creating a culture of evidence to improve programs and services.

Student Success Definition. The team is currently developing a LATTC Shared Definition of Student Success utilizing the results of the *Student Success Survey* that has been completed by faculty, staff, and students; as well as utilizing results from various dialogue sessions taking place at the college this fall.

Data Team Activities and Outcomes

Student Success Survey, Faculty and Staff Results. The team gathered, compiled, and analyzed the results of the *Student Success Survey* completed by faculty and staff. Results are available on the ATD website at: <http://college.lattc.edu/atdteam/resources/>.

Research Review. The data team identifies and discusses empirically-based research studies on student success. In October, the team discussed Cliff Adelman's *The Toolbox Revisited* study* and the implications for how to examine student success at LATTC. Of particular interest to the team-- as a result of this research--is the identification of key momentum points and gateway/gatekeeper courses at LATTC. [*Clifford Adelman, “*The Toolbox Revisited*”, US. Department of Education, 2006. Available online at: <http://www2.ed.gov/rschstat/research/pubs/toolboxrevisit/index.html>]

2008-09 Cohort Analysis. A fall 2008-09 student cohort analysis was conducted using key student progression indicators. The indicators selected for the cohort analysis were based on potential indicators identified by the data team, Cliff Adelman's *The Toolbox Revisited*, ARCC measures, and other effectiveness indicators the college and district typically reports. The Data Team is currently gather-

ing more, in-depth data based on the initial findings from the cohort analysis. The results of the cohort analysis are available on the ATD website at: <http://college.lattc.edu/atdteam/meeting-materials/>.

*"Is it enough to provide access to education without the policies and practices that ensure students succeed in meeting their educational goals?
....we can no longer be satisfied with providing students open access and limited success."*

2011—CCC Student Success Task Force Report

Joint Team Activities and Outcomes

Kickoff Retreat, August 24. Both teams participated in an all day kick off retreat for the ATD Initiative. Results from dialogue that day were used to: (1) develop the shared vision and philosophy of student success, (2) develop the Student Success Survey, and (3) develop a detailed work plan and timeline for the ATD Initiative planning year - 2011-12.

Student Success Indicators. Both teams have discussed potential data indicators that could be used for monitoring and assessing Student Success at LATTC. The teams continue to collect and analyze data to pinpoint key indicators that will be adopted for the initiative.

Student Success Reports and Research. Frequently, reports and research on student success are shared and discussed amongst team members. A recent study that garnered particular attention and discussion amongst the two teams was: *Time is the Enemy: The surprising truth about why today's college students aren't Graduating...and what needs to change* by Complete College America, a nonprofit founded two years ago with financing from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Lumina Foundation and others. Report available at: http://www.completecollege.org/docs/Time_Is_the_Enemy.pdf

The California state report is available at: <http://www.completecollege.org/docs/California.pdf>

Statewide Student Success Taskforce. Recently the California Community Colleges Student Success Task Force completed their draft recommendations which are described in [Refocusing California Community Colleges Toward Student Success](#). Team members have read and are discussing the report, the Task Force recommendations, implications for LATTC, and some ATD team members also attended the Task Force Town Hall held October 27 at the LA Chamber of Commerce.

KEY ATD DATES IN NOVEMBER

11/15: 2010-11 COHORT DATA REPORTED TO ATD

11/29: DAY OF DIALOGUE



Save the date!

Day of Dialogue, November 29.

Both teams are organizing an entire "Day of Dialogue". The purpose of the day is to engage the campus community in looking at data and discussing: What Student Success means at LATTC? How do we know if students are achieving (what data would we want to see)? And, what does the data we have now say about student success at LATTC? HOLD THE DATE... further details on the Day of Dialogue will be forthcoming!