

Strategic Priority E: Planning, Achieving, Managing Growth
Action Step E4: Identify retention strategies for collegewide implementation

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Recommended retention strategies for collegewide implementation and further investigation:

The Task Force Team seeks to gain support from the Executive Leadership Team and the collegewide community in the establishment of a common understanding/definition and slogan/tag-line, which demonstrates the goal and objectives of student success and retention at Moraine Valley Community College. Creating this common theme will support and drive the college's effort to promote and encourage student success and enhance retention.

Several definitions and slogans/tag lines are being presented for consideration and the final selection for presentation to the collegewide community:

Potential definition:

- A. Retention is student success, and as a learning college we will continue to partner with our students by fostering an academic environment through programs, and services that engages learning, social integration, intellectual growth, and skill development for our diverse community of learners. (This definition was derived from the Mission and Purpose and Strategic Priorities)
- B. Retention is student success evident in our deliberate actions in a learning-centered environment through programs and services that encourage intellectual growth, advance skill development and fosters achievement and social inclusion for our diverse population of learners.
- C. Retention is student success as the outgrowth of actions provided within our learning-centered environment, which are supported by meaningful integration of academic experiences and social interactions that address the learner's desired goals.
- D. Retention is student success that is shaped by our learning-centered environment, which fosters the needs, expectations, and goals of the learners, by promoting successful completion of college studies and/or courses that are aligned to the academic and social achievement desires of students.

Potential Slogans or Tag-lines

- a. "Student Success and Retention is Everyone's Business";
- b. "Student Success and Retention is Our Commitment to Learning";
- c. "Student Success and Retention Belongs to Us";
- d. "Student Success and Retention is About Us"

1. Upon completion of the new Student Records Systems: College intent such as major and educational goals will be updated semester-by-semester to assure accurate representation of our student's college records for reporting purposes and research.
2. By spring 2006 – Include members of Retention Task Force group to the Enrollment Management Task Force (Leadership contacts: Delores Brooks and Wendy Manser) and/or other AQIP Teams to supplement studies and advance retention recommendation, strategies, and findings of the former Retention Task Force (Leadership contacts: Dr. Patricia Bauhs and Dr. Nancy Bentley).

This includes the utilization of the Student Success and Retention Strategies Charts on:

- a. First-year full-time populations
- b. Adult population
- c. Adult* and Traditional Age Part-time population
(Define and survey “Adult Market” to demarcate academic success, retention, needs for this group of learners – to create a baseline of this population)
- d. ESL, ABE, GED population
- e. Within Term Success and Retention Rates
(Course completion/GPA/Class Withdrawals/Dropout and/or Stop-out)
- f. Late Registrant*
- g. Investigate implications of college placement testing for all students enrolled fall 05/spring 06 in career program and liberal arts courses without previous college credit, ACT scores, and placement testing. (Indicator: Level of Academic Success at the end of the semester).*

* (Studies will be completed by fall 2006)

3. By summer 2006 – Utilize the College Student Inventory (CSI) data from the freshman transition classes (COL101), college placement exams, developmental course placements, and college-level courses placement (MTH120 and COM101), and earned grades to identify and establish a model for at-risk first-time students. By fall 2006 – Share findings and proposed at-risk support strategies to collegewide community for adoption and implementation (Leadership contact: Joann Wright).
4. By fall 2006 - Establish a repository of Student Success and Retention Resources (Web-based) to share information in supporting faculty and campus services with success strategies, retention programs, and research findings such as:
(Leadership contact: Nancy Bentley)
 - a. MVCC's Faculty responses to e-mail on Retention Strategies questions
 - b. Local and National Best Practices/Research on Retention Programs and Initiatives
 - c. MVCC's Report on Current Practices – “What do we do at MVCC to support student success and retention”

- d. MVCC's ESL Survey and Research Findings
- e. Findings and Best Practice Strategies, Theories, and Research on At-Risk Students
- f. Findings, National Best Practice, and Strategies about Success Rates of Late Enrollees
- g. Findings from the Adult Learners Survey and National Best Practice Strategies and Theories
- h. Withdrawal rate data on Entry Level and Developmental Math/Com/Reading Courses.
- i. "Factors Affecting Persistence and Success; Demographic Trends; Minority Persistence, and Educational Goal/Intention." - National Trends uncovered by Retention Task Force Group
- j. College Student Inventory Profile Findings of COL101 Full-Time Freshman Cohorts.