



Western Nevada College

INITIATIVES BASED ON PROBLEM-SOLVING RESEARCH

STUDENT RETENTION

Structured Cohort Model: Student cohorts of 15-30 students, embedded coaches, weekly supplemental instruction, prescriptive advising, two-year completion model (15-to-Finish, pre-semester accelerated (3-week) classes, block scheduled regular semester. Based on *Guided Pathways to Success* initiative of *Complete College America*.

Gateway Completion Initiatives: Prescriptive advising, enrollment holds in specific courses, increased availability of online courses, co-requisite model classes (MATH 96D+126, five-credit course to complete gateway course in one semester, ENG 100, begins at developmental level and students complete ENG 101 in one semester).

English 99 Intervention Project (Fall 2017): Inspired by a John N. Gardner Institute presentation on interventions in chemistry classes. WNC 'College Success' instructors designed and delivered 'timely intervention' for all sections of ENG 99 in Fall 2017. The aim was to increase retention of students in that at-risk group by helping them understand critical feedback. In 2017-18, 67% of the students enrolled in the fall English 99 Intervention Project sections enrolled at WNC the following spring and 49% enrolled in a writing course in spring. This is compared to the prior two-year average where 59% of those enrolled in comparable English 99 sections enrolled in spring while only 41% enrolled in a writing course.

UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS/ACHIEVEMENT GAP

Jump Start College: Structured Cohort, provides access with cohorts at 9 locations including in-person instruction on high school campuses, online cohort developed for NV Virtual Academy. 61% of the full-time Jump Start high school juniors starting in fall 2014 graduated from WNC with an Associate's degree within three years. 58% of Jump Start juniors starting in fall 2015 received an Associate's degree within two years and at the same time they graduated from high school. The overall course success rate (passing with a C- or better) for Jump Start students in fall 2017 was 87% which includes students in tracks B (developmental education) and C (Career and Technical Education) as well as track A.

Latino Cohort: Structured Cohort, provides access for working students with morning and afternoon cohorts, managed by Latino Cohort Coordinator. 52% of full-time Latino Cohort students who began in fall 2014 graduated with a certificate or degree within three years and 73% successfully completed their courses (passing with a C- or better) in spring 2017.

SNAP/CTE Pilot Program: Reduces financial barriers blocking underserved populations and under-skilled individuals from receiving job skills to enter high demand, high wage jobs. The spring 2018 pilot is in advanced manufacturing.

College Prep Cohort (Developmental Classes, PLANNED Fall 2019): Structured Cohort, will provide access for working students with morning and afternoon cohorts, will provide specialized support of students in developmental college classes.

NV Promise Cohort (PLANNED Fall 2018): Structured Cohort, will provide access for working students with morning and afternoon cohorts, managed by student services.

ROADS Pilot: IAC workgroup action to address large number of under-employed, under-skilled Nevadans, 25-34 years old. The project is designed to guide individuals to education programs which lead to high demand, high wage jobs in construction and advanced manufacturing.

FACULTY AND UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Undergraduate Research: Projects in biomedical science (funded by the NSF INBRE Grant) have yielded results that will likely be published in the next year. Current and former instructors partnering with UNR and BYU will publish the results. www.wnc.edu/research/