



April 2015

Complete College Wyoming (CCW) continues to provide support and dialog regarding student success and completion in our state. Highlights and general updates since the January newsletter are included in this month's update.

1. Continued Momentum

The Complete College Wyoming Team continues to work on key projects and communicate the college completion message in our state. Through monthly meetings via conference call, team members remain active in and committed to the completion agenda in Wyoming. Since it is critical that we have insights from Wyoming's Industry, the team has invited 2 potential new members who represent industry. Dave Treverso from Cloud Peak Energy in Gillette has agreed to join the team and we hope to add another industry member soon. The team will be actively pursuing additional K-12 members as well.

The team has added a liaison from the community college public relations committee to disseminate information and to provide assistance in the marketing campaign for CCW. Christopher Sheid from Western Wyoming has volunteered to serve. Thanks, Christopher!

2. Semi-Annual Team In-Person Meeting

The CCW team met April 10th in Casper to discuss several items, including: 1) current and future initiatives; 2) the development of a Wyoming Public Television program on Complete College Wyoming; and 3) the annual reporting process for the first round of metrics. This spring and summer, the team will continue to facilitate some of the fall programs focusing on student success in Wyoming and will be preparing for a fall release of CCW data.

In addition, the CCW team will be working to schedule a follow-up meeting with Governor Mead and the new Wyoming Superintendent of Public Instruction, Jillian Balow. The Governor is very interested in a follow-up meeting and in getting K-12 partners more involved.

3. Finalizing the Metrics

The metrics have been finalized and reviewed by the various constituent groups. Our goal is to report on a relatively small number of key performance indicators that give a representative picture of student success in our state.

The Statewide Institutional Research (IR) Council and University of Wyoming IR staff met with CCW representatives on January 29th to plan data gathering and development of the Dashboard. The first round of data is due on June 15th.

Context Metrics

Overview and Background metrics:

- a. Enrollment (annualized headcount and FTE)
- b. Enrollment (Fall with demographics)
- c. Entering student preparation (ACT, developmental, HS GPA)
- d. Financial Aid (federal, loans, institutional)

Progress Metrics (in priority order)

- a. Student retention and persistence
- b. Gateway course completion within the first 30 credit hours
- c. Course completion (using a weighted calculation)
- d. Milestone progress for students completing 12, 24, 36 hours per year

Student Success/Completion Metrics (in order)

- a. Degree and certificate completion
- b. Transfer with a degree
- c. Transfer without a degree
- d. Employment in Wyoming or surrounding states
- e. Average time to degree or certificate
- f. Workforce performance and/or participation

4. **College and Career Readiness Definition**

The CCW College and Career Readiness sub-committee completed the working paper defining college and career readiness for students transitioning from their secondary education experience. The paper will be shared with various groups including superintendents, principals, high school counselors and various audiences on the higher education campuses for further review and possible adoption.

The goal is to get broad involvement and commitment to completing a definition that can be used at all levels of education and as a preparatory statement for job entry. The team hopes that by early next fall, there will be sufficient feedback and involvement to generate a final statement.

5. **Transfer from CCs to UW**

Since the September Articulation Summit, the Wyoming community colleges and the University of Wyoming have been working hard to establish program articulation plans (aka 2 plus 2 plans) for 17 of the highest enrollment programs. To date, 81 of 119 plans have been completed. The goal is to have signed 2 plus 2 articulation plans for the 17 programs at all of the community colleges (as applicable) by end of spring 2015. Once those are completed, the community colleges and UW will work on develop 2 plus 2 articulation plans for the remaining programs.

6. **Statewide Marketing Efforts**

The CCW Team established a Marketing/Information Sharing Subcommittee to help assure that information on important success initiatives is being shared. The team determined that there are two major audiences that will be targeted for FY15 & 16 campaigns, policy-makers and internal institutional audiences.

The team developed a CCW brochure to use in presentations and other public settings. Each team member received a supply in December. A postcard was created and distributed to Legislators in December. The committee will continue to develop ways to help communicate our state's information effectively.

7. **Statewide Success Initiatives**

In November, the community colleges and University of Wyoming produced an 11-page compilation of success completion efforts. As with any effort, some specific initiatives have been more successful than others.

All institutions are addressing remediation. Some changes, such as co-requisite enrollment in college level and remedial English, have been mainstreamed by several colleges with good success. UW has implemented a pilot program which allows all entering students to take problem solving (MATH 1000) even if they have placed into a remedial course. For those students, an additional hour of supplemental instruction is required each week to build skills. Initial results indicate that the students who participated in the course with supplemental instruction perform as well or better than the students who were math-ready. Institutions also are providing accelerated summer programs to allow students to brush up on forgotten skills in math and English and progress more quickly.

Advising and guided pathways are being addressed at all institutions. Orientation programs and classes are being redeveloped to focus on student connections and knowledge of important resources. Three institutions are participating in the HLC Persistence and Completion Academy.

Complete College Wyoming encourages involvement from all stakeholders in our State. Visit the website, <http://completecollegewyoming.org>, contact team members, volunteer to serve in various capacities, and share your insights on student success and completion in Wyoming. The team meets every other Wednesday at 1 p.m. on the phone. Contact us at CCW@wwcc.wy.edu.



Complete College Wyoming, appointed by Governor Mead, facilitates cooperation among community colleges, the University of Wyoming and other key stakeholders in focusing on student access, success and completion.