



January 2015

Complete College Wyoming (CCW) continues to provide momentum for the many college success and completion activities within our State. Highlights and general updates since the October newsletter are included in this month's newsletter.

1. *Continued Momentum*

The Complete College Wyoming Team continues to work on key projects and carry the message regarding college student success and completion in our state. Through bi-weekly meetings via conference call, team members remain active and committed to the completion agenda in Wyoming. New members to the team are Dr. Joe Schaffer who is now the presidential representative and Brad Barker, the new representative from the Department of Education. Patrice Noel agreed to serve as Vice Chair to backup Chair, Jackie Freeze and assist with projects as needed.

2. *Meeting with Governor Mead*

Members of the team met with Governor Mead in early November to report on progress to date. The team outlined the activities since our inception, in particular the developmental education and guided pathway initiatives, and relationship building across the state. During this positive meeting, the Governor asked informed questions and expressed a desire to meet again with the team in the Spring when the new Superintendent of public instruction can be involved.

3. *Finalizing the Metrics*

The metrics have been finalized and reviewed by the various constituent groups. The team has made a few changes to reduce the Context metrics to those items that truly set the stage for the Progress and Completion metrics. While there is other important information that could be monitored, it is important to stay focused on what will be reported on a regular basis that will indicate progress toward goals.

The Statewide Institutional Research Council will meet with CCW representatives on January 29 to plan data gathering and development of the Dashboard.

Context Metrics

These metrics provide an overview background needed to understand our progress and completion. They are not designed to measure student success or institutional accomplishment in the same way as the Progress and Success/Completion metrics. They are very necessary to provide the context within which we operate.

- 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 priority 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*

Draft Preamble

Wyoming students who are college and career ready will demonstrate the knowledge, skills and abilities that are necessary to successfully complete entry-level, credit-bearing college courses, participate in certificate or workplace training programs, or enter economically viable career pathways. In order to meet this goal, the state has defined a set of learning competencies, intellectual capacities and experiences essential for all students to: be able and willing to continue to learn; provide positive contributors to their families, workplaces and communities; and be successfully engaged global citizens.

Beyond demonstrating college and career ready levels of competence in English Language Arts / Literacy and Mathematics on a readiness assessment, all high school students should develop a foundation in the academic disciplines identified in the Hathaway Success curriculum. Students must be able to:

- Synthesize information from multiple sources to draw conclusions.
- Apply models to real world situations.
- Write effectively so that a general audience can understand the information.
- Read, understand, and summarize information from a variety of sources.
- Solve problems with connections to the standard mathematical practices.

5. *Transfer from CCs to UW*

Prompted by a legislative footnote, a taskforce on credit transfer met twice this summer to discuss transfer challenges and identify strategies to enhance transfer between the community colleges and UW. The Articulation Summit was held September 25th in Laramie and was attended by over 150 participants. Administrators discussed general transfer concerns (policies, transcript sharing, advising, etc.) and faculty, department heads and deans discussed program articulation in the 17 highest enrollment majors. The goal is to have signed 2 plus 2 articulation plans for the 17 majors between UW and the 7 community colleges (119 total plans) by end of spring 2015. Once those are completed, the community colleges and UW will work on developing 2 plus 2 articulation plans for the remaining majors.

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 who will become the focus of the FY15 campaign. They are policy-makers and our internal institutional audiences.

The team completed 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. *CCA Convening*

Nine members of the CCW team attended the Complete College America Convening in Miami in December. Attendees included faculty members Jake McIntyre, Casper; Will Clark, WWCC; Don Anderson, NWC; Mohammed Chakhad, LCCC and Miranda Miller, NWCCD. Others attending were Jackie Freeze, WWCC; John Freeman, Legislator; Patrice Noel, UW; and Jose Fierro, LCCC.

The group was proud of how Wyoming has approached our completion agenda and that we have remained committed to significant involvement at every level. This is clearly not the case in every state and it is reflected in some of the challenges states now face.

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.