



June 2014

Complete College Wyoming (CCW) continues to provide leadership to the student success and completion effort in Wyoming. Efforts are coming together in a very positive way. General updates are provided in this month's newsletter.

1. *Faculty involvement in the Complete College Wyoming Effort*

In March, the team decided to add a faculty representative from each institution to the extended team. Each institution has appointed a person to the team and they are active participants in meetings and team projects.

Representatives took the proposed metrics to their campuses in early May to share with faculty and gather feedback on the level of importance they place of various metrics and to make any recommendations related to the scope and completeness of the draft metrics. Several institutions provided detailed feedback which the team will review when they finalize metrics in August.

2. *Developmental Bootcamp*

CCW sent a team to the Lumina-funded Developmental Bootcamp in Charlotte, NC in April. The Wyoming team of 9 included two K-12 representatives (a Superintendent who taught English and a math teacher); 3 college faculty (one community college math, one community college English and one UW math); a community college developmental education administrator and a dean; a legislator and a CCW rep as Team Lead. The team learned a lot about best practices and what other states are doing and looked at data from successful efforts. They developed an action plan that includes bringing developmental education people back together in the fall, working more closely with K-12, and developing a college readiness definition. The team will meet this summer to provide more

detail and clarity to the Action Plan. Mark Nordeen from CWC will lead a planning and information sharing session for developmental faculty in early Oct.

The Bootcamp group recommended that we add an additional K-12 rep. to the CCW team. Dr. Summer Stephens, Superintendent from Weston Co. joined the team in May.

CCW established a subcommittee led by David Anton, UW, to develop a definition of college and career readiness. The majority of the faculty reps. and the K-12 rep. will serve on the committee.

CCW nominated a faculty person from Western to serve on the Smarter Balanced standards committee.

3. *Developing capacity and support for completion and success strategies and Guided Pathways*

The Statewide student Affairs conference was held June 1-3 in Jackson, followed by the Guided Pathways session June 3-4. Dr. Steve Piscatelli, a faculty member from Florida State College, provided a keynote on "*Teaching Resiliency: It Takes More than Academic Skills to Success in College and Life*" and Dr. Cliff Harbour provided the second keynote entitled "*Taking a Second Look at the Completion Agenda*" which provided excellent data on completion activities. Over 100 people attended this event.

The Guided Pathways program involved 69 participants including a large number of faculty from the campuses. Dr. Larry Abel from Florida State University provided the keynote and

facilitated institutional team activity on developing pathways and meta-majors. It was a very productive program and college left with plans they could expand at home. Dr. Abel's attendance was funded by CCA.

Many of the institutions were already working on strategies to clearly define degree pathways and limit excessive choice.

Several of the institutions are moving to meta-majors doing away with undecided and general studies in favor of broad categories such as math and science; humanities; social science; technologies. Students can choose a broad category and learn more about majors and careers within the category through advising, career counseling, and targeted freshman experience classes

4. *Statewide Marketing efforts.*

The CCW Team continues to educate and inform people on the goals and activities of Complete College Wyoming. The Team created an abbreviated marketing plan to enhance the communication flow and involve more people in the process. It includes:

- More responsibility for team members to educate their campuses and communities
- Additional campus involvement with communication responsibilities
- Revising the website to focus on the most important aspects of our efforts
- Adding FAQs, Best Practices, and Success Stories to the website
- Conduct town meetings to educate and gather feedback
- Create a brochure to be used in presentations
- Involve PR staff on the college campuses in sharing information
- Provide news releases to statewide media
- Provide monthly tidbits about higher education in Wyoming

5. *Employment Data*

Workforce Services has crafted a MOU for the tracking of employment data for the colleges. It is currently being reviewed by Commission staff.

The discussion will continue on the development of surveys that can be conducted by Workforce on behalf of the colleges.

6. *Transfer Challenges*

The University of Wyoming is working on addressing challenges that make the transfer from Wyoming's community colleges more difficult than necessary. They have visited with college staff; held a statewide meeting in May with college representatives to discuss transfer challenges and worked with the Transfer Council to develop strategies for moving forward.

The main concern on the part of the community colleges relates to the desire to work out a system whereby students can transfer programs as opposed to courses. Statewide articulation and MOUs would be necessary to effectively make this transition.

7. *Finalizing the metrics that are important to Wyoming.*

The team reviewed the metrics at the March 27-28 meeting and made some minor changes. Faculty representatives took them to their faculty and CCW team members shared them widely on their campuses to get feedback.

The team separated metrics into context metrics, those that describe the students and the institutions, and progress metrics, those that demonstrate student progress and completion. Sources of data has been completed



Complete College Wyoming encourages involvement from all stakeholders in our State. Visit the website, contact team members, volunteer to serve in various capacities, and share your insights on student success and completion in Wyoming.

The team continues to meet every other Wednesday at 1 p.m. on the telephone and will meet August 11 and 12 in Riverton.

Contact us at CCW@wwcc.wy.edu