



October 2014

Complete College Wyoming (CCW) has experienced a very busy time since the last update in June. We continue to move the State's completion agenda forward. Highlights and general updates since the last 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 student success in our state. They meet every other week for 1 ½ hours and average about 15 people per call. The faculty members have brought additional dimension to the team and the discussions are very energetic and professional. The team met this summer for two days in August in Riverton and will continue to have at least two live meetings per year.

2. *Finalizing the metrics*

The team spent the majority of their August meeting reviewing and finalizing the metrics. They were updated and reviewed again in September and shared with various stakeholder groups. A survey was conducted to determine priority placement for the progress and success/completion metrics.

As mentioned in an earlier update, the team divided metrics into context metrics, those that describe the students and the institutions; progress metrics, those that demonstrate student progress; and completion metrics, those that show student educational goal achievement.

Context Metrics

These metrics provide an overview of education and accessibility in our institutions. They are not designed to measure student success in the same way as the progress and success/completion metrics are. They are very necessary to provide the context within which we operate.

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)

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

3. *College and Career Readiness Definition*

The team has had preliminary discussions about defining college and career readiness. A draft definition was started years ago under the auspices of the department of education. The team determined that we should create our own definition and present it to our various constituent groups. At a future point, it might be combined with a renewed effort by the State Department of Education.

The subgroup charged with drafting this definition met Oct. 4 in Riverton. Participants include most of our faculty CCW representatives, Summer Stephens, our superintendent rep., and a high school principal.

A definition will be forthcoming soon.

4. Developmental (Remedial) Education Update

Complete College Wyoming sponsored a developmental education follow-up meeting in Riverton October 3. It included approximately 50 faculty representatives in English, Math and developmental education from all of the institutions, key administrators, advising staff, and members of the CCW Team.

Institutions shared information on strategies that have been underway along with success data for initiatives that have been going on long enough to have initial data. Small groups gathered to discuss discipline-specific challenges and opportunities and to share more detail on success initiatives.

The CCW team will create a flyer/brochure on developmental education to be distributed to key audiences.

5. Employment Data

The CCW team met with representatives from the Department of Workforces Services to discuss options for getting more information on graduate employment.

Workforce Services has crafted a MOU for the tracking of employment data for the colleges. It has been reviewed by the community colleges and Commission staff and will be shared with the University of Wyoming. This MOU will allow for aggregate reporting of student employment by job categories.

The team also discussed the options for utilizing Workforce Services to conduct surveys to employers in order for us to have better data on satisfaction of those who employ our graduates. Tentative agreement was reached on an overall plan and Workforce Services will return with a detailed proposal.

6. Transfer from CCs to UW

A taskforce on transfer met twice this summer discussing challenges and crafting a strategy to move forward.

A transfer articulation meeting was held Sept. 25 in Laramie for over 130 participants.

Administrators shared general transfer concerns and faculty and dean met in the 17 most popular

majors to discussion program articulation. This will be a major accomplishment when the finished agreements are signed. The goal would be to have most completed in early spring and then move on to the remaining majors.

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

Planned initiatives include developing handouts on developmental education and CCW in general, creating short video clips showcasing various aspects of our programs and using testimonials, including metrics in the discussion, making sure the website stays current and is promoted and sending regular postcards to the key audiences.

6. Fourth Community College Summit to Focus on Collaboration, Completion

The fourth annual Wyoming Summit on Community Colleges will bring together the community colleges, the University of Wyoming, K12 educators and administrators, legislators and industry representatives with a single focus on collaboration and completion. The Summit is scheduled for October 8 and 9 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Laramie. The Summit will kick off on October 8 with keynote speakers Kay and Byron McClenney. For more information about the Summit and a tentative agenda, visit www.wacct.org.

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 phone. Contact us at CCW@wwcc.wy.edu