



Student Engagement and Success Plan

2015-2017

SCC STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND SUCCESS PLAN 2015-2017

MISSION

The Student Engagement and Success Committee will support students at South Central College by creating a student focused environment that enables faculty, staff, and students to provide opportunities for successful completion of academic and professional career option goals.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Engagement and Success Committee is to educate the college community on student engagement best practices, create and offer initiatives that support student engagement and success, and to provide resources and support for academic success to students, faculty, and staff.

INSTITUTIONAL AND SYSTEM WIDE ALIGNMENT

The Student Engagement Plan will be aligned with South Central College's Strategic Priorities and MnSCU's Charting the Future Work Plan.

➤ South Central College's 2015-2017 Strategic Priorities

GOAL – Holistic Learner Services

- Implement a comprehensive First Year Initiative through AQIP action projects to improve our welcoming environment, followed by a comprehensive menu and intentional plan around services and supports provided to students in their first year.
- Pursue additional avenues for logistic learner services through continuous quality improvement in academic support, advising and career counseling.

➤ MnSCU's Charting the Future Work Plan

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK #1: Ensure access to an extraordinary education for all Minnesotans

- *Strategy 1: Establish clear pathways for students that lead to increased retention and completion.*
 - 1.1.2 Strengthen academic advising
 - 1.1.3 Develop a metric on satisfaction and the efficacy of advising
 - 1.1.4 Review and revise policies (where appropriate) to mitigate unintended consequences and remove unnecessary barriers
 - 1.1.5 Identify partnership opportunities for technology tools to support retention and completion

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK #3: Deliver to students, employers, communities and taxpayers the highest value/most affordable option

- *Strategy 1: Deliver to students the most affordable option to an extraordinary education*
 - 3.1.1 Ensure affordability for all students

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Goal 1: Strengthen Academic Advising

Alignment:

SCC's Strategic Priorities: *Holistic Learner Services - Pursue additional avenues for logistic learner services through continuous quality improvement in academic support, advising and career counseling*

Charting the Future: *1.1.2 Strengthen academic advising, 1.1.3 Develop a metric on satisfaction and the efficacy of advising*

AQIP: *Category 1 Helping Students Learn*

Supporting Research or Resources:

2015 CCSSEE Key Findings

2015 SSI Executive Findings

High Impact Practices

Noel Levitz 2015 Student Retention & College Completion Practices Benchmark Reports

ACTION STEPS		Timeframe	Responsible Person/Dept	Resources/ Potential Cost	Outcome Measurement/Goal
1	Research advising best practices	Jan-Feb	Subcommittee	N/A	Compile a list of campus-based best practices.
		Feb-June			Compile a list of best practice and determine gaps and issues.
2	Develop specific recommendations for strengthening academic advising	Jul – Oct	Subcommittee	N/A	Compile a list of potential recommendation and resource requirements for implementation. Make recommendations for implementation.
3	Identify training and professional development needs to support new advising approaches	Jul – Oct	Partner with groups across campus		Compile a list of potential recommendation and resource requirements for implementation. Make recommendations for implementation.

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4	Implement professional development trainings and opportunities	October	Partner with groups across campus		Increased knowledge across campus, higher satisfaction of employees and students, increased retention of students.
5	Develop a metric to assess the satisfaction and effectiveness of advising changes	Feb-June	Subcommittee	N/A	Find a measurable way to assess satisfaction and effectiveness of advising changes.
6	Develop/share guidelines for advising at SCC	October	Subcommittee		Increased knowledge across campus, higher satisfaction of employees and students, increased retention of students.

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Goal 2: Evaluate Technology Tools to Support Retention and Completion

Alignment:

SCC's Strategic Priorities: *Holistic Learner Services - Pursue additional avenues for logistic learner services through continuous quality improvement in academic support, advising and career counseling*

Charting the Future: *1.1.5 Identify partnership opportunities for technology tools to support retention and completion*

AQIP: *Category 1 Helping Students Learn*

Supporting Research or Resources:

ACTION STEPS		Timeframe	Responsible Person/Dept	Resources/ Potential Cost	Outcome Measurement/Goal
1	Research software/systems used for early alert, advising, graduation planning, and enrollment management	Feb – March	Subcommittee	N/A	Research Best Practices, Technology and Tools that support student retention and completion.
2	Evaluate existing resources, software, and systems	Dec - Feb	Subcommittee	N/A	Review existing resources, tools, and systems at SCC.
3	Identify technology/software needs to implement student success interventions and to manage enrollment	April-June	Partner with groups across campus	N/A	Partner with groups on-campus to determine resources for technology and tools to support student retention and completion. Also determine how to measure effectiveness of the tools or technology in increasing student retention and completion.

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4	Recommend technology/software to be utilized for enrollment management planning	July	Subcommittee	N/A	Make recommendations to Team Members across campus regarding tools, data, and systems for improving student retention and completion rates.
5	Implement technology/software	July	Subcommittee		Improved Retention and Student Success.

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Goal 3: Evaluate ASA Policies (2.9 Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress, 5.12 Tuition and Fee Due Dates, Refunds, Withdrawals, and Waivers)

Alignment:

SCC's Strategic Priorities: *Holistic Learner Services - Pursue additional avenues for logistic learner services through continuous quality improvement in academic support, advising and career counseling*

Charting the Future: *1.1.4 Review and revise policies (where appropriate) to mitigate unintended consequences and remove unnecessary barriers*

AQIP: *Category 1 Helping Students Learn*

Supporting Research or Resources:

ACTION STEPS		Timeframe	Responsible Person/Dept	Resources/ Potential Cost	Outcome Measurement/Goal
1	Review current policies to determine if the policies create barriers to student retention and completion				
2	Draft modified language for policies/procedures that may create barriers to student success				
3	Submit modified policies/procedures to AASC for review				

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Goal 4: Create and Deploy a Financial Literacy Program for Students & Families

Alignment:

SCC's Strategic Priorities: *Holistic Learner Services - Pursue additional avenues for logistic learner services through continuous quality improvement in academic support, advising and career counseling*

Charting the Future: *3.1.1 Ensure affordability for all students*

AQIP: *Category 1 Helping Students Learn*

Supporting Research or Resources:

ACTION STEPS		Timeframe	Responsible Person/Dept	Resources/ Potential Cost	Outcome Measurement/Goal
1	Identify existing programs for SCC students	Completed by May 2016	Jayne Dinse, Candy Laven, Lisa Schickling	Grad Ready Postcards	Create a comprehensive list of existing programs at SCC.
2	Improve marketing and communications of existing programs	Complete by December 2016	Jayne Dinse, Candy Laven, Lisa Schickling	Postcard, poster, marketing materials	Create a Financial Literacy Task Force to develop a comprehensive marketing plan
3	Research new models for potential implementation	Complete by May 2016	Jayne Dinse, Candy Laven, Lisa Schickling	Webinar Meeting	Implement best practices
4	Recommend enhancements to programming	Completed by December 2016	Jayne Dinse, Candy Laven, Lisa Schickling	Marketing materials	To improve students' awareness of financial literacy resources

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5	Implement enhancements	May 2017	Jayne Dinse, Candy Laven, Lisa Schickling	Marketing materials, speaker cost	Improved financial literacy among our students at SCC
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Goal 5: Establish Student Focus Groups to ensure Student Input and Perspectives are included in decision making

Alignment:

SCC's Strategic Priorities: *Holistic Learner Services - Pursue additional avenues for logistic learner services through continuous quality improvement in academic support, advising and career counseling*

Charting the Future:

AQIP: *Category 1 Helping Students Learn*

Supporting Research or Resources:

ACTION STEPS		Timeframe	Responsible Person/Dept	Resources/Potential Cost	Outcome Measurement/Goal
1	Evaluate past practices and identify improvements if needed		Student Life		
2	Establish Student Focus Groups through communication with Student Life and Student Senate	November 2015	Student Life	Student Senate, Student Life, SCC Students/No Cost	Goal: Achieve buy-in for focus groups with the students. Outcome: Collaboration on future steps with student groups.
3	Determine process for conducting Student Focus Groups	November 2015	Student Life	SESC, Goal 5 Subcommittee, Student Life/No Cost	Goal: Determine a simple and quick method in gaining student input on SCC policies & procedures. Outcome: Short Survey tool.
4	Implement Student Focus Groups	November 2015 – April 2016	Student Life	NOV 2015 = \$115.00 Est. future cost = \$300 Students, Student	Goal: Conduct a survey with diverse student perspectives to provide input on various SCC topics. Outcome: Collect and report student perspectives relevant to the specific survey

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				Groups, Student Life	topics.
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Goal 6: Begin working on a Student Success Plan

Alignment:

SCC's Strategic Priorities: *Holistic Learner Services - Implement a comprehensive First Year Initiative through AQIP action projects to improve our welcoming environment, followed by a comprehensive menu and intentional plan around services and supports provided to students in their first year*

Charting the Future:

AQIP: *Category 1 Helping Students Learn*

Supporting Research or Resources:

ACTION STEPS		Timeframe	Responsible Person/Dept	Resources/Potential Cost	Outcome Measurement/Goal
1	Explore/Research Individualized Student Success Plans	September – May 2016	Committee	Employee Time	Increased knowledge of SSP at other colleges.
2	Identify existing processes and procedures focused directly towards student success	September – May 2016	Committee	Employee Time	Compile a list of processes/procedures focusing on student success.
3	Evaluate current processes and procedures to determine effectiveness	September – May 2016	Committee	Employee Time	Recommend changes to processes/procedures if they are determined ineffective. Increase in effectiveness and efficiency.
4	Collaborate with Diversity committee to determine if current processes and procedures meet the needs of diverse students	September – May 2016	Committee	Employee Time	Indicate if there are any potential barriers in processes/procedures for the diverse student body. Removal of barriers if necessary.

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5	Recommend new framework	December 2016	Committee	Employee Time	Recommend new framework focusing on student success to the appropriate administration.
6	Implement framework	January 2017	Committee	Employee Time/Financial Costs Unknown	Implement new framework leading to increased student success.