Taming the Completion Tiger

Planning and Performing Following the Panther Path
at Portland Community College
Board of Directors Meeting
November 21, 2013
National & State Context

Competing Agendas?

Access vs Student Success vs Completion

Priority of external entities which narrowly define “Student Success”
The College Responds ... 

- Creation of the **Panther Path** – a student success model
- Establishment of the **Completion Investment Council (CIC)**
Our Framework: The PCC Panther Path

The Panther Path is a roadmap for students and an organizing tool for institutional planning designed to advance student success and completion.

- Visible and integrated pathway for students
- Communicates mission, core themes, and completion agenda
- Useful framework for planning and institutional prioritization
The Panther Path
An intentional path to student success and completion

PREPARE
• Entering students will be academically, personally, and financially PREPARED to navigate PCC successfully on day one of classes

ENGAGE
• Students will ENGAGE & choose their educational path, developing the skills, knowledge, and connections needed to balance school and life demands

COMMIT
• Students will COMMIT to their GRAD Plan, utilizing resources to reach educational goals in and outside of the classroom

COMPLETE
• Students will successfully COMPLETE their educational goal and develop post-completion strategies for next steps

THRIVE
• Alumni will THRIVE in their personal, educational, and career pursuits, advancing the region’s long term vitality

College level ready 0-25% goal completion 25-75% goal completion 75-100% goal completion Lifelong learning

Access & Diversity Quality Education Economic Development

Student Success – Key Metrics (developed by Completion Investment Council)

Focused on Prepare phase Focused on Engage phase Focused on Commit phase Focused on Complete phase Focused on Thrive phase
The Panther Path
An intentional path to student success and completion

Entering students will assess their readiness and be PREPARED for success on day one of classes. Specifically, students will have:

- Completed coursework to be college-level ready
- Initial placement testing and assessments completed
- A plan to pay for courses
- An appropriate first term schedule – based on skills, previous education, and goals
- The ability to use MyPCC for all college business
- A basic understanding of college expectations and terms
- Necessary support in place for unique needs
- Resources and tools in place for academic success and progress – textbooks, parking permit, college ID, etc.
- Technology readiness
Completion Investment Council
Charge for the Council

This Completion Investment Council will provide advice and guidance to administration in order to:

– Improve student success and completion
– Proactively respond to the emerging regional and national “completion agenda”
Guiding Principles of CIC Work

- Students are the reference point
- Collaborate across the college
- Rely on evidence
- Strategic Actions
- Align with college core outcomes & institutional goals
- Informed by best and promising practices of others
- Rely on a student success framework (Panther Path)
- Be bold and take the long view
The CIC Learning Process

Panther Path

PREPARE  ENGAGE  COMMIT  COMPLETE  THRIVE

CIC year 1 focus
Data Question/Answer Examples

What is most challenging for students?

How prepared are new students for college-level work?

How far do math students progress?
Data Question/Answer Examples

What is most challenging for students?

How prepared are new students for college-level work?

How far and how quickly do pre-college math students progress?
Emerging Priorities - PREPARE

• Establish clear pathways and transition points – focus on guided access and guided progress along the Panther Path

• Enhance internal communication and collaboration – support a holistic student success culture
Emerging Priorities

• Improve math and pre-college course achievement and completion – *create a math achievement culture*

• Prioritize professional development for all (including PT faculty!) – unifying element of development is *learning and student success*
**PREPARE Initiatives – college wide**

### Completion
**Investment Council**
- Pre-college student success measures
- Achievement gaps
- Promising practices

### Instruction
- Developmental Education Task Force
- Math Task Force & pilots
- Investment in teaching & learning

### Student Support
- Answer Centers new student orientations
- Retooling advising model
- Leveraging technology for communication & retention

### Foundation & Partnerships
- The “Campaign for Opportunity”
Panther Path: A Student’s Journey
5 Years of PCC Enhancements
Initiatives Focused on Student Success and Completion

Success = Certificates, Degrees, Transfers & Employment
Questions?
Thank You!

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