

Graduation Initiative
July-October, 2013

Campus: Channel Islands

Team Leader: Gayle Hutchinson, Provost/VPAA

1) *What did your team commit to completing during this month? (What did you promise?)*

- We committed to a leaner Student Success Week that included the Majors Fair on October 9. We were unable to secure additional funding for some of the activities included last year, such as the take a student to coffee event. The Majors Fair reached 300+ students, especially freshmen students (N=121), many of whom are in UNIV classes. The least reached group of students are sophomores.
- During the summer meeting of the SSP, as reported by Ballman and Peña, ISLAS and Marie Francois collected powerful student data on the impact of University Experience Associate-led discussion groups and transfer student retention.
- As reported by Ballman and Peña in July, 2013, access, retention and graduating high quality students were identified in the 2013-2018 Strategic Plan rolled out on May 9. Plans are underway to have wider campus conversation about the Strategic Plan given the timing of the report (approaching final exams and graduation).
- We committed to meet to discuss plans for the last two years of the initiative and who should be at the table. We want to make certain that our reach is wide (i.e., beyond the HSI grant initiatives.) Additionally we are examining reaching out to other campus constituencies vital to student success, specifically our staff partners as part of our work on student success this year.

2) *What did you do and how will it help?*

- The VP of Student Affairs helped us to identify new individuals from Student Affairs to join the group for the broadest base of joint efforts;
- We continued practices that we could sustain from prior years (i.e., Majors Fair; power point presentation on practices associated with student success);
- Marie Francois presented information on transfer success and retention at the Fall Faculty Colloquium in August, 2013;
- We met to discuss next steps.

3) *What will you accomplish next?*

- The larger campus community will be revisiting the strategic plan, which has an explicit focus on student success strategies. This will help us in moving forward. We will meet again after those conversations are underway.

Prepared by Elizabeth Hartung (AA) and Damien Peña (SA)