



Graduation Rate Initiative
Bi-Monthly Reporting Form
November and December 2010

Date: December 15, 2010
Campus: Humboldt State University
Team Leader: Robert A. Snyder, Provost

1. What did your team commit to completing during November and December (What did you promise)?

The advising group will make recommendations to the Graduation Rate Improvement steering committee.

There will be recommendations and implementation plans for Early Alert and First Year Experience.

With leadership from the college deans, plans already developed will be put in place to facilitate professional development opportunities for faculty, staff and administrators to help foster student success. This broad based initiative will be developed into focused training sessions to provide information, resources and strategies to support student needs both in and out of the classroom.

2. What did you do and how will it help?

The Advising Work Group made a set of recommendations. From those recommendations, three were chosen for further action or were identified as being part of other initiatives currently under way.

Recommendations and Implementation plans were submitted by work groups in both Early Alert and First Year Experience. We will begin the implementation phase in spring semester with both being operational on a limited basis (about half the incoming freshman class) in fall 2011.

All three Colleges have implemented programs designed to improve pedagogy in several ways including looking at redesigning gateway courses and faculty development opportunities for learning to improve success for underrepresented students. These include colloquia and a fellowship program for faculty to examine issues of unconscious bias and other cultural obstacles to creating a good learning environment.

We have identified sophomore students who will be receiving additional aid in the form of Work Study funds to connect them to the campus and ease some financial burdens.

We have used Education Advisory Board materials and advisors to assist with background research.

The first periodic report was made to the Academic Senate to keep them informed about the initiative and our progress.

The job description for the Retention Coordinator was finalized. This will help establish this key position in the chain of command and in terms of evaluating the effectiveness of the position and the individual in it.

3. What will you accomplish in January and February?

For the next several months, implementation of initiatives and refining operational details will our primary goals. High impact practices have been identified and the challenge is to move beyond discussion and planning.