



Graduation Rate Initiative
Bi-Monthly Reporting Form
January and February 2011

Date: February 22, 2011
Campus: Humboldt State University
Team Leader: Robert A. Snyder, Provost

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

Identify all high impact practices to be implemented between AY 2010-11 and 2011-12. These included Early Alert Software, standardized course rotation matrices for each department, advising software, student portals and a first year experience pilot program. Student research and faculty development opportunities already developed will be implemented.

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

Early Alert software was identified and the plan for fall 2011 implementation is being developed.

First Year Experience plans were vetted with faculty. A working group of faculty and staff have been identified to receive training and develop course content for a fall 2011 pilot program which will include all students who need remediation in both math and English.

Programs designed to improve pedagogy in several ways including redesigning gateway courses, faculty development opportunities for learning to improve success for underrepresented students, and using technology for course transformation have been implemented in the colleges and the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT).

We have identified sophomore students who will be receiving additional aid in the form of Work Study funds to work with faculty on research projects in order to better connect them to the campus and ease some financial burdens. A similar program has been implemented in one of the colleges. Both of these programs match students with faculty.

There was a presentation of new advising software from the Educational Advisory Board that would assist students and faculty in designing and following individualized education plans for each student. It was well received and the campus is considering whether or not to join the early adopter consortium.

3. What will you accomplish in March and April?

All of our efforts have moved beyond the initial discussion and vetting stage and into detailed planning and implementation of pilot initiatives. We will continue to monitor the progress of each project with the goal of meeting already determined operational deadlines.

A detailed study of English Remediation similar to an already completed study of Math Remediation will be completed. Using data from that report, the English Department, Vice Provost and Dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences will put together a new curriculum that will better prepare students in English 100 First Year Reading and Composition for the level of writing that will be expected of them in the rest of the curriculum. The new curriculum will be ready for implementation in fall of 2012.