



Humboldt State University  
Graduation Rate Initiative  
Report for September and October, 2014

Date: November 3, 2014

Campus: Humboldt State University

Team Leader: Dr. Jenny Zorn, Interim Provost

**1. What did your team commit to completing during October and September, 2014 (What did you promise)?**

Work with the Educational Advisory Board (EAB) Student Success Collaborative (SSC) would continue with further training for pilot programs.

The EAB SSC Leadership team would meet to make decisions about revising our implementation plan for the campus based on our experience in August and with a better understanding of the software platform.

The Enrollment Management Working Group (EMWG) would begin meeting with an emphasis on problem solving. The EMWG membership might be revised in order to better focus university resources.

The new advising plan would continue implementation starting with selected programs moving to professional advising of freshmen.

A consultant, hired by Enrollment Management & Student Affairs to review the Humboldt Orientation Program would present his findings to university leadership and they would identify next steps for the program.

The Scheduling Working Group would meet to continue discussions and decide on recommendations to the Interim Provost for spring 2015 course scheduling.

The Office of Institutional Research would develop reports and dashboards to provide better analytic representation of data to drive retention, course transformation and curricular decision making.

Discussions would continue regarding aligning our degree program sizes with available resources (Right-Sizing).

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

Work with the EAB SSC continued with further training for pilot programs. Use of the new

data and advising platform in Wildlife and Music will start in early November.

The EAB Leadership team met several times to discuss how to best revise our implementation plan for the campus based on our current experience with the software platform, willingness of additional departments to serve as pilots in the second implementation phase, and a cost/benefit analysis of the efficacy of the project.

The Enrollment Management Working Group (EMWG) is now meeting once per month. In September we discussed the results of the work of the consultant brought in look at our orientation program (see below). Also, there was discussion of our use of Hobson's Communication Software and the new Radius module, and the implications of selected program impaction in the sciences. In October there was a presentation from our Institutional Research Director demonstrating new and better analytic capacity and a comprehensive overview of our students and an objective analysis of our retention and graduation challenges. There was also a presentation of scheduling recommendations (see below). The EMWG membership might be revised in order to better focus university resources.

The new advising plan is in the middle of phase one implementation starting with selected programs moving to professional advising of freshmen.

A consultant, hired by Enrollment Management & Student Affairs to review the Humboldt Orientation Program presented his findings to university leadership (see attached report).

The Scheduling Working Group made recommendations to the Interim Provost for fall 2015 course scheduling, including some adjustments to scheduling quotas, prioritization of certain lengths of classes during "prime time" and plans for making this ad hoc group permanent.

### **3. What will you accomplish in November and December?**

A final decision will be made regarding the long term efficacy of the Student Success Collaborative advising platform using data gathered during our first pilot efforts.

An implementation plan for adopting the HOP consultant findings will be developed.

Uniform four year maps for each major on campus will be developed and located in one place to improve advising and help students plan their progression through their majors. This comprehensive resource will replace multiple and conflicting guides developed during earlier initiatives.

Details of Phase two of our advising plan will be developed and implemented early in spring 2015.

Campus wide strategic planning will begin in earnest. Once completed, this should guide decisions regarding recruiting and retention strategies, advising, and graduation rate improvement.

Our office of Institutional Research and Planning will continue to work on developing key actionable analytics for the EMWG research agenda in order to help make better, more informed and data focused decisions.