

## Education Planning Initiative Steering Committee Meeting

Friday May 9, 2014

CCC Confer

### Review of Timeline/Objectives:

The four major objectives of the Education Planning Initiative (EPI) Steering Committee are progressing:

- **Create a student portal to consolidate, personalize and sequence information and activities.**
  - *Recruitment for members to serve on Student Services Portal Steering Committee (SSPSC) is currently in progress. The SSP SC will investigate and make recommendations for applications or portlets (similar to portals on our computer systems). These will include information on transcripts, orientation, financial aid, time management, transportation, child care, test anxiety, substance abuse, food assistance, CalWorks, career planning, counseling, DSPS, and EOPS. The EPI Steering Committee is looking for people with broad experience in student services and will also seek input from students.*
- **Provide an Education Planner and Degree Audit system and guidance services to go along with them.**
  - A pilot college application has been distributed throughout the CCC System. The deadline for the pilot colleges to apply is May 23, and the EPI Steering Committee will be selecting pilot colleges by May 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - An environmental scanning survey to identify the status of electronic educational planning systems at colleges was completed on Friday, 5/16 after several revisions among the Steering Committee and will be distributed within the next week.
    - The survey will target student services, CSSOs or their designees, educational planners, degree audit staff, counselors, and A & R staff.
- **Support existing Education Planners with an element that helps to integrate the data into a cohesive system.**
- **Message students, based upon knowledge that we have about them, to promote positive actions.**

### Discussion of Potential Long Term Challenges and Issues:

The EPI Committee also discussed challenges that face the EPI. They included:

- Roadblocks to the success of the project, including political or technology issues
- Ways to seamlessly incorporate K-12 students who move into our CCC systems with matriculation or education plans so that they do not redo their entire plans
- Concerns expressed by IT staff from across the state about the amount of time commitment that will be expected of them as a result of EPI.
- Challenges of articulation in the process of rebuilding the ASSIST database. There are a lot of articulation agreements that will need to be moved over into a computer readable format.
- The need to clearly communicate that the success of this initiative will be determined by its usability; it must be intuitive, understandable and the information must be accurate. The articulation piece is going to be challenging, but it is most important to involve the people who will be using these applications.

- The communication team is working on a monthly newsletter, which will include a FAQ section designed to address misconceptions; the first newsletter will go out in the next week.
- The need to differentiate between academic advising and counseling, especially with online or technology processes.
  - In some systems, i.e. Degree Works, counselors have no ability to include private comments on counseling sessions. Some members noted the need to incorporate technology systems that will meet the counselors' needs for note taking (counseling) and developing ed plans (academic advising) something that is not in most education planners and degree audit systems.
- The extra work generated by a new technology.
  - After deploying a new technology, the question usually arises: who does the extra work? Is it academic affairs or is it student affairs? These issues will need to be resolved.
- The lack of coordinated efforts between the K-12 and the CCC system.
- The problem presented by the elimination of career counseling in high school processes, and students matriculating to college with no sense of career direction.
- Challenges with electronic transcripts: not all community colleges in California are using eTranscript California
  - There are currently 55 community colleges that are on eTranscript California, and 84 institutions
  - There was a discussion about the possibility of having the CCCCCO pay for electronic transcripts for all of the community colleges in the upcoming fiscal year and providing other incentives through a mini-grant program.

The EPI Committee will respond to a doodle for a full day in-person meeting in Sacramento in June.