

Goal: Improve Student Learning, and Retention and Graduation Rates (Goal 2)

Date: 1/30/2016

Prepared By: Bill Heineman

Strategic Goal Progress Summary- Year 15/16

Progress Report Key

	Completed
	Progressing as Expected
	Progressing with Challenges
	No Report Yet

Goal Initiative	Brief Description	Comments	Status
Transition from the Achieving the Dream (ATD) Core Team to the Goal 2 Strategic Plan Team	Add new members to reflect the larger goals of the team. Explore the larger responsibilities of the team.	The team embraced its larger role in terms of institutionalizing the Achieving the Dream activities it had worked on for seven years and expanding the college’s student success work to new arenas. It functioned well but it is now time for a new team and a new approach to our student success efforts.	
Identify and pursue goals related to improving student achievement over the next few years	We continue to measure progress toward our student academic achievement goals. The First-Year Experience Team (FYE) works on the First Year Seminar (FYS) and Early Alert strategies	Student Success Goals: Overall Course Completion fell slightly to 72 percent in Fall 2015 (compared to a target of 76% we set for Fall 2016), the completion rate in English Composition I in Fall 2015 remained steady at 64 percent (still significantly below our Fall 2016 goal of 70 percent), and fall to fall retention for all students stayed at 63 percent in 2015, again well below our 2016 goal of 70 percent. These results suggest a plateauing of our student success measures and a need for new and different methods to help the academic	

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	<p>to help new students succeed. The Transitions to Academic Success Strategy Team promotes Reading Apprenticeship (RA) to improve student skills in many disciplines' gateway courses.</p>	<p>performance of our students. The First Year Experience (FYE) Strategy Team is still pursuing implementation of the First Year Seminar as a graduation requirement for all students starting in Fall 2017. More work is needed to help academic programs determine how to integrate this requirement into existing curricula. The college's Early Alert system, Starfish Early Success, continued to grow in fall 2015 with faculty participation at 41 percent and 3445 student flags raised (compared to 1210 in Fall 2014) and 6145 kudos provided. In Fall 2015, Hispanic students who were flagged and used tutoring or the Student Success Center services had a course completion rate 8.4 percentage points higher than non-users and a retention rate 23.9 percentage points higher than Hispanic students not using services. The Transitions to Academic Success Team hosted a Massachusetts Statewide Reading Apprenticeship Institute in August co-facilitated by the Trish Schade and Nika Hogan, coordinator of California's Reading Apprenticeship Project. Eighty-nine people from seven Massachusetts Community Colleges, three Massachusetts Universities, six area high schools, and one Adult Basic Education program attended. The team also conducted a college-wide student survey with over 300 responses on student reading attitudes and behaviors. Goal Team 2 decided in Fall 2015 that the work of its Guided Pathways Strategy Team (focused on providing more structure in the curriculum and student support experiences at NECC) would be best pursued under the new college strategic plan and especially the new Academic Master Plan.</p>	
<p>Describing and explaining our progress on student success to external and</p>	<p>Reports on our interventions and results are regularly provided</p>	<p>Dr. Heineman served on a panel at the Innovations in Developmental Math Conference at Middlesex Community College in December 2015 and described NECC's work math initiatives under the strategic plan</p>	

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internal constituencies	within the college and to the wider community. As a Leader College, NECC is expected to share what it has learned and coach other colleges in student success.	and Achieving the Dream. The Transitions to Academic Success Team plans to present a pre-conference workshop at the TASS Conference in March 2016.	
Developing new resources to support student success strategies	Team 2 has actively pursued new grant opportunities to support student success work.	The college won a \$225,000 Integrated Planning and Advising Services Grant from Educause/Gates Foundation in summer 2015. This funding supports organizational and process change, as well as technology integration and upgrades, in the student support system at the college. NECC is also actively preparing to seek funding from the US Department of Education (Title V, STEM Title V, and/or Title III) which would support a variety of Goal Team 2 initiatives.	