The Georgia State University Early College Program: A Practice in Student Success Relevance

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Early College at Georgia State University

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Outline of Presentation

- Introduction to GSU Early College
- Relevance to Conference Strand
- Evidence of Success
- Guiding Research
- Questions/Comments
Brief Description

• Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s Early College High School Initiative:
   – Carver Early College (2005)
   – Washington High School - Early College Program (2009)

• Program objective:
   – to offer first-generation, students of color, and students of low SES backgrounds the opportunity to earn considerable college credit while pursuing their high school diploma

• Practices utilized to promote college readiness and access:
   – Parent orientations/manual/emails
   – College Readiness Course
   – Summer Enrichment
   – Touch-Ins
   – Study sessions
   – Professional Luncheons
   – Supplemental programs
   – Grade reporting
Relevance

• Close the “achievement gap” for those traditionally underperforming populations

• ECHSI philosophy
  – when challenged, underrepresented populations in higher education will rise to the challenge of a rigorous and accelerated high school curriculum while beginning their college tenure in high school.

• ECHSI looks to address the issues of high school dropout, postsecondary readiness, and career readiness

• Georgia State Early College program has worked successfully to
  – reduce the “achievement gap”
  – introduce the option of college
  – introduce successful programs and strategies focused on high school graduation and college and career readiness.
Evidence

• National Data-
  – High School Graduation Rates
    • 78% of Traditional Students
    • 90% of Early College Students
  – Post-Enrollment Rates
    • 68% of Traditional Students Enrolled in Post-secondary Institutions
    • 71% of Early College Students Enrolled in Post-Secondary Institutions
Evidence

• National Data
  – Credits Earned
    • Average 38 college credits earned by Early College students across US
  – Degree attainment post-high school graduation
    • One year: 1% of Traditional students & 21% Early College students
    • Two years: 5% Traditional students & 25% Early College students
Evidence at GSU

- Numbers/accomplishments through programming at GSU
  - 90% Retention Rate at GSU
  - Average of 19.8 Credits earned by Early College students at GSU
  - 100% Accepted into 2- or 4 year colleges/universities
  - 92% of GSU Early College Students Enrolled in Post-Secondary Institutions in 2014
  - 83% of 2009 graduating class still pursuing post-secondary degrees, while 15% have graduated.
Evidence at GSU via Programming

- Program Evaluation Surveys (Please see handout)
  - Summer Enrichment
  - College Readiness
  - Touch-Ins
  - Study Sessions
  - Former Early College students
Black Empowerment Theory
The process by which persons gain the ability to obtain & utilize resources to achieve individual or collective goals, & to manage emotions, knowledge, skills or material resources in a way that allows for effective performance of social roles. In addition, the ability to navigate ecological barriers.

– Tutor
  • Training
    – Mentorship

– Students
  • Cohorting
Guiding Research

Motivation

• Growth Mindset Theory
  The belief that intelligence can be developed whereby learning is the ultimate goal.

• Goal Setting
  • Academic & career goals
  • Accountability
Guiding Research

• Student Support
  – TRIO Services
  – Student Integration Models
Guiding Research

• Black Segregated School
  – Strong Leadership
  – Caring Teachers
  – Academic Curriculum/Extracurricular Activities
  – Community and Parent involvement
Contact Information

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