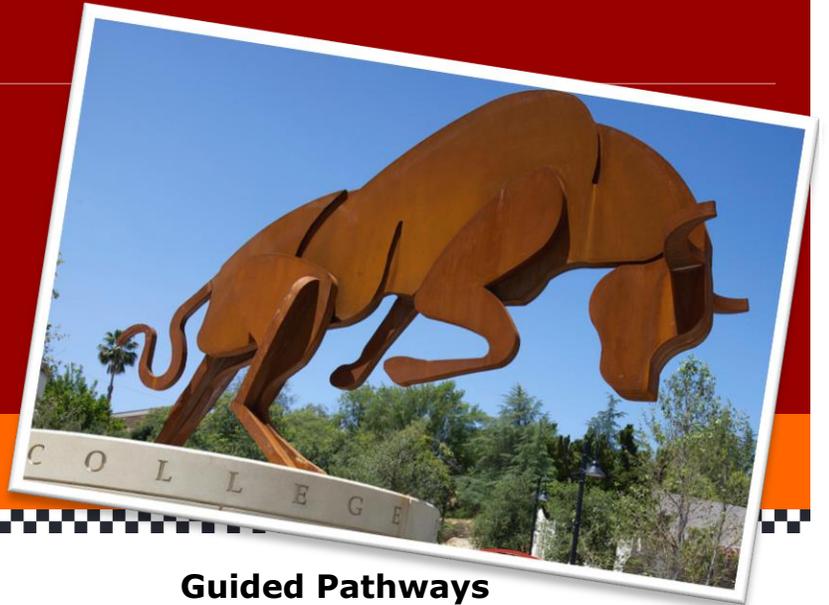


First Monday Report

Focus on Guided Pathways



Issue 36, December 4, 2017

Upcoming Events:

- Dec 6 Humor for the Health of It
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
LLC 5160
- Dec 12 President's Holiday Open House
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
SSB 3rd Floor Lounge

- Campus Closure Dates:
- Friday, Dec 22
 - Monday, Dec 25 (Christmas)
 - Thursday, Dec 28
 - Friday, Dec 29
 - Monday, Jan 1 (New Year's Day)

Guided Pathways

By Sheri L. Berger

How did Guided Pathways begin?

Guided Pathways evolved out of national initiatives such as Achieving the Dream, the Developmental Education Initiative, and the Completion by Design Initiative dating back to at least 2004. The guided pathways model is based on research suggesting that community colleges provide “cafeteria” models that may no longer be appropriate to meeting their missions. According to the Community College Research Center and the American Association of Community Colleges, today’s students want to enter and complete programs as economically and efficiently as possible. At cafeteria colleges, the end goals are not

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The beginning of Guided Pathways

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clear; “there are too many choices, programs lack educational coherence, and students’ progress is not monitored” ([The Movement toward Pathways](#) 2015).

During the 2016-2017 academic year, the Foundation for California Community Colleges announced the California Guided Pathways Demonstration Project funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the James Irvine Foundation, the Teagle Foundation, and fees paid by the participating colleges. Colleges had the opportunity to apply to participate in the project. The intention of the project was to help 15-20 colleges implement an integrated, institution-wide approach to student achievement. This includes the experience the student has from the time of application through graduation or the completion of her/his educational goal. The project has a clearly defined model, terms of participation, a three-year timeframe, and is managed by national experts. Twenty community colleges across the state are now participating in this demonstration project, which goes through 2019.

What is Guided Pathways?

The Guided Pathways model creates a structured approach to student success that (1) provides all students with a set of clear course-taking patterns that promotes better enrollment decisions and prepares students for success, and (2) integrates support services in ways that make it easier for

Students to get the help they need during every step of their experience. There are four pillars of Guided Pathways:

- 1) Create clear curricular pathways to employment and further education.
- 2) Help students choose and enter their pathway.
- 3) Help students stay on their path.
- 4) Ensure that learning is happening with intentional outcomes.

The framework asks that we put students first and at the forefront of decisions. We need to ask how what we do will help students achieve their goals. This includes all members of the college community.

A Guided Pathways Self-Assessment Tool was created by the Chancellor’s Office for each college to assess where they are in adopting the Guided Pathways framework. There are 14 Key Elements identified: cross-functional inquiry, shared metrics, integrated planning, inclusive decision-making structures, intersegmental alignment, guided major and career exploration opportunities, improved basic skills, clear program requirements, proactive and integrated academic and student support, integrated technology infrastructure, strategic professional development, aligned learning outcomes, assessing and documenting learning,

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What's next?

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and applied learning opportunities. For each key element, the college can assess where they are on the scale of adoption: pre-adoption, early adoption, in progress, or full scale. For a college to be full scale, guided pathways must be infused throughout all aspects of the college and must be a conversation in which all employees are participating.

What is next?

This year, the 2017-2018 California State Budget provided one-time grant funding of \$150 million to seed the expansion of the Guided Pathways framework across all California Community Colleges. The state Chancellor's Office is responsible for oversight and implementation of Guided Pathways. This one-time investment is to assist colleges in the implementation of the Guided Pathways framework. This investment will support a five-year planning and implementation process at each participating college. With this funding, the college is expected to rethink and redesign programs and services into cohesive strategies to achieve outcomes expected by the state.

In order for a college to be eligible for funding, three benchmarks need to be met

- 1) A team from the College must attend a Guided Pathways workshop hosted by the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Institute (IEPI).
- 2) The College must submit the Guided Pathways Self-Assessment to the state Chancellor's Office by December 23, 2017.
- 3) The College needs must submit a multi-year work plan describing the College's implementation strategies by March 30, 2018.

Two College teams attended the IEPI Guided Pathways workshop on October 16, 2017. The College formed a broad-based Guided Pathways Self-Assessment Task Force to review responses to the self-assessment. Responses were received from groups of individuals who had direct knowledge and expertise of a particular Key Element on the self-assessment. The Pierce College Council and the Academic Senate have both approved the self-assessment.

After submission of the multi-year work plan in March, the state is expected to allocate funding in April 2018. Pierce College's allocation is approximately \$1.8 million over five years. Funding will be disbursed in five installments, with 25 percent being allocated in the first year.

More information about Guided Pathways can be found at <http://cccgp.cccco.edu/>.

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES Guided Pathways

California Community Colleges Guided Pathways is a multi-year state program designed to provide all California Community Colleges with the opportunity to implement Guided Pathways for the purpose of significantly improving student outcomes.

[Learn more -including podcasts & videos](#)