Project (Assessment) Title

TRIO Student Programming Participation

College-wide Strategic Goal

Increase Student Completion

Assessment Overview

TRIO student retention and persistence can be connected to sense of belonging, validation, and involvement in TRIO programming. The likelihood of persistence from semester to semester may be connected to the level of project involvement.

Methodology (Plan/Method)

TRIO planned to track student participation in programming by utilizing sign in sheets at each event. Event means any TRIO workshop, seminar, or activity. Sign-in sheet data will be recorded in StudentAccess for all applicable TRIO programs. At the end of Spring 2020 we will audit all active participants and categorize their level in participation into three levels: none (attended 0 programming), low (attended 1-2 programming), moderate (attended 3-4 programming), and high (attended 5 + programming). Next we will document whether or not they are registered for the following semester (persistence to Fall 2020 or Summer 2020) or applying for graduation/graduated (retention/completion Spring 2020 or Summer 2020).

Based on the results we hoped to identify any correlation to the level of engagement in their respective project and their academic persistence and retention.

Timeline

We intended to start tracking student participation in January 2020 and finish recording participation at the end of May 2020.

Results/Findings

As indicated in the methodology section, participation in TRIO programming was to be categorized into different participation levels (no participation, low, moderate and high) for participants. From the beginning of the year until the move to remote work, TRIO was only able to provide 3 of the 13 planned programming opportunities for the semester. Because of this, not enough data was collected on TRIO student participation to determine any correlation between persistence and participation. TRIO was not able to perform the assessment as planned.

Due to Senior Director of Planning & Implementation by November 15, 2019

Action Plan (Use of Results/Improvements/Call to Action)

Although the move to remote services and telecommunting impacted TRIO programs ability to assess participation as an indicator or persistence, TRIO has been successful in the transition to be able to provide virtual programming opportunities starting Summer 2020. Due to the nature the a global pandemic, TRIO programs is prepared to be flexible to meet student needs to continue this assessment plan in Fall 2020.

The effects of the pandemic on programming highlighted some areas of improvement that could be worked on through the 2020-21 academic year. Specifically, TRIO will incorporate more virtual opportunities for participants in addition to traditional formats. By incorporating more virtual opportunities as a norm, TRIO will be able to keep student engaged regardless the format. We will continue to track participation in these new formats and reassess the correlation between persistence and correlation in December 2020 and again in May 2021.

Other Notes