

PROGRESS BRIEF

August 31, 2018



WTCS
Student Success Center



WTCS SOAA Results Analysis & Determining System-wide Focus Domains

In February 2018, after facilitating the Scale of Adoption Assessments (SOAA) throughout the System, the WTCS Student Success Center Team at the System Office compiled and analyzed the information from the colleges. After reviewing the SOAA data and reading the goals and activities outlined in each college's Student Success Center Grant Proposal, the Student Success Center Team determined that Domain 2 - *Helping Students Choose & Enter A Pathway* and Domain 3 - *Keeping Students On The Path* were the highest priority for a majority of the colleges and thus would be the 2018-19 focus for the WTCS Student Success Center Network. The focus on these domains isn't intended to diminish the work being done in Domains 1 - *Mapping Pathways To Student End Goals* and 4 - *Ensuring Students are Learning*. Every college's needs are unique and any work conducted within the 19 essential practices influences the institution's overall progress.

WTCS SYSTEM-WIDE FOCUS DOMAINS (2018-19)

Domain 2: Helping Students Choose & Enter A Pathway
Domain 3: Keeping Students On The Path

2018 WTCS Student Success Summit

In July 2018, the annual WTCS Student Success Summit was held at Madison College. The Summit was attended by over 150 individuals within our Statewide Network as well as by our national partners (Achieving the Dream, Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation & Affiliates, and Jobs For The Future), with special support provided by our presenters and keynote speakers: Dr. Mei-Yen Ireland (*Director of Integrated Student Support Strategies, ATD*), Shauna Davis (*Holistic Student Supports Coach, ATD*), Dr. Colleen McCabe (*WTCS Vice President & Provost*), and Dr. Morna Foy (*WTCS President*). This year's Student Success Summit was focused on transformational change, holistic student support strategies, the use of data for equity in student success, and the system-wide progression of Domains 2 and 3. The System Office received feedback after the Summit indicating that many attendees valued having the opportunity to both hear about the current activities occurring throughout the WTCS and identify other colleges whose goals align with their own.

2018 Student Success Summit Highlights:

What did you find most valuable?

"Hearing from the experiences of our colleagues at other WTCS colleges was so valuable."

"The data related to equity and the early momentum Indicators."

"Time with our team to discuss our college's situation and our next steps."

Continuing Collaboration: WTCS College Partnerships For Student Success

One of the long-term goals of the WTCS Student Success Center is to continue building a collaborative community within the System. The first steps to accomplishing this are sharing promising practices for student success across our statewide network and connecting colleges with the appropriate resources needed to advance their goals. To help support these connections, the WTCS Student Success Center Team has created two grant summary documents that can be used to identify which colleges within the System have projects or activities that are closely aligned. Copies of the [Grant Summary by College](#) and [Grant Summary by Focus Area](#) documents were included in the WTCS Student Success Summit attendee packets, and they are now also available on MyWTCS on the WTCS Student Success Center webpage.

Additionally, the WTCS Student Success Center Team was able to participate in a recent collaborative activity after being invited to attend Waukesha County Technical College's August In-service with Dr. Rob Johnstone (President, National Center for Inquiry & Improvement) as the keynote speaker. The event was strongly focused on student success, and the meeting gave the WTCS Student Success Center Team greater insight into WCTC's plans on maintaining momentum within this work throughout their college-wide community.

WTCS Student Success Center Professional Learning Opportunities

The WTCS Student Success Center Team has planned several professional learning opportunities over the course of the next year, one of which will be Holistic Student Support Consulting. This service will be provided to the colleges by the WTCS Student Success Center Team in partnership with Achieving the Dream beginning in September 2018 and will be ongoing until July 2019. A more detailed list of Student Success Center activities and professional learning opportunities has been compiled in the [WTCS 2018-19 Professional Learning Timeline](#), which is accessible on MyWTCS on the WTCS Student Success Center webpage.

UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

WTCS Common Ground Conference | Oct. 24-25, 2018

Fall Institute: Holistic Student Support Redesign | Nov. 7-8, 2018

ATD Dream Conference | Feb. 19-22, 2019

WTCS Assessment Conference (GTC Hosting) | Mar. 7-8, 2019

Holistic Student Support Consulting | Sept. 2018 – July 2019

Data for Equity in Student Success & Early Momentum Indicators

There has been an increased emphasis on the importance and use of data to drive change. This increase has created a growing need for new tools to assist in gathering and analyzing data that was, in-part, fulfilled with the implementation of the Program Performance Dashboard over the past year. The usefulness of this dashboard was quickly recognized by end users at the colleges, but access to Tableau was limited. Recently, the System Office IT Department confirmed that greater access has been approved so that thirty individuals on each campus can use the software and dashboards. Additionally, the VPN login requirement for Tableau was removed, and this change will allow users to more freely access the dashboards without encountering some of the technical issues experienced in the past.

In continuing to meet the colleges' need for data resources, the WTCS Research Team has developed the WTCS College-wide Student Success Dashboard in Tableau. This dashboard offers a high-level summary of system- and college-wide student performance for key performance indicators (e.g., fall to spring retention, GPA of 2.0 or greater, credit momentum) that research has identified as being highly correlated with student program completion. The development of the College-wide Student

Success Dashboard goes hand-in-hand with the introduction of the Early Momentum Indicators for first-time college students that was presented at the Student Success Summit. These key indicators allow for a quicker assessment of the effectiveness of institutional reforms by measuring the performance of first-year students. The College-wide Student Success Dashboard has many applications, and the increased perspective on student performance provided through this dashboard will hopefully enable colleges to identify the equity gaps in their student populations and implement changes that will increase successful student outcomes where it is most needed.

WTCS Dashboard training resources are now available on the [Tableau Dashboards Resource](#) page on MyWTCS. Please visit this page to access the user manuals for the Program Performance and College-wide Student Success Dashboards as well as additional guiding resources focused on the process of effective data use and analysis.

College Data Spotlight

Waukesha County Technical College (WCTC) has undertaken a very ambitious and exciting alignment project that focuses on integrating their college's strategic goals, the Guided Pathways essential practices, and the Higher Learning Commission's accreditation criteria into an over-arching and unifying framework for student success within their institution.

WCTC has implemented this alignment using a cascading structure to incorporate the components of all three frameworks throughout every area of the college, and this innovative approach has generated very positive feedback from the Student Success Center Network and some of its affiliates. WCTC has provided several visuals and infographics about their framework alignment which are available on [MyWTCS](#). We are very excited to see the many benefits that will undoubtedly stem from the work being done at Waukesha County Technical College.