

PATHWAYS LEADERSHIP

The incorporation of the Pathways into the culture and procedures continued at San Jacinto College during the 2017-2018 academic year. During the fall 2017, the Pathways Leadership Council (PLC) consisting of representatives from leadership, administration, faculty, support services, and technology the PLC met several times to discuss results of the SmartStart pilot and the other aspects of Pathways. However, by December 2017, large-scale oversight by the PLC was no longer efficient and plans were made to form another council that will include students, administrators, faculty, and staff to provide leadership, feedback, and expertise. This council will work to ensure that Pathways efforts continue to meet the needs of our diverse student population by responding to challenges, identifying and removing barriers to student success.

The professional development focus of Pathways included discussions around *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success* by Carol Dweck. Several studies indicate significant improvement in success among students, particularly minority and low-income students, who have participated in class activities that cultivate a sense of belonging and academic tenacity. Dr. Jacquie Beaubien, former Senior Program Manager-PERTS, Stanford University, who used Mindset to overcome personal and academic challenges, worked with department chairs and instructional deans at the Chair/Dean Academy in the summer 2017. She also spoke at College Assembly and worked with Faculty at Discipline Enrichment meetings during College Community Week (August 2017).

PATHWAYS CURRICULUM DESIGN

SmartStart (SS), a first semester onboarding experience, was designed by the Student Continuum Task Force to help students select a future career and a course MAP (My Academic Plan) to that career while teaching students the skills needed to be successful in college and in a future career. The fall 2017 SS pilot was a model in which students entered a two-week EDUC 1200 onboarding course with instruction on SS student learning outcomes (SS-SLOs) and EDUC 1200 SLOs followed by a 14-week semester. When SmartStart students from the pilot (n=315) were compared to a comparable group (n=412) that did not participate in the pilot, data indicated that SS students attempted more semester credit hours (SCH) (15.3 / 13.1) and completed more SCH (11.7 / 10.3). However, this 2/14 model proved difficult to scale up due to scheduling inefficiencies and faculty credentialing issues.

A SS Scale Up Task Force, that included some of the Student Continuum Task Force members, was formed in fall 2017 to analyze results from the SS pilot, develop a model that would be scalable and sustainable, and implement changes for fall 2018 scale up to all qualified students. Members were charged with designing and implementing a model that could be scaled up for all full-time and part-time, CR (college-ready), FTIC (first time in college) and had not taken Math or English. The scale up also included students that are not CR in Math but are CR in English.

SmartStart 2.0 was designed by the task force to be developed a model to be launched in spring 2018 for the fall 2018 semester. This model included a mandatory New Student Orientation for all new students during which students take the Focus 2 Career Readiness Assessment. Each

student meets with an Enrollment Advisor to review the assessment results and to select a Career Pathway (meta-major) and SS students are enrolled in SS English and Math courses. Students will be in cohorts by Math courses which will be determined by the Career Pathway. These courses are offered in an 8A/8B part of term which has shown to increase the number of SCH attempted and student success. Students that are not CR in Math are placed in a co-requisite developmental and academic Math class that is offered in a 16-week semester. These students are also placed in a 16-week SS academic English class.

SS English and Math courses are designed to give SS faculty and students an additional contact hour for teaching and practicing SS-SLOs. Ed Tech Designers and Faculty on the task force developed a calendar and numerous online resources for the SS-SLOs so that Faculty can present the SS skills in a need to know timeline giving students more time to practice the skills. These task force members worked with Math and English faculty during four professional development sessions to share, design, and contextualize SS activities.

Members of the SS Scale Up Task Force developed the process for creating SS English and Math sections, provided a step-by-step guide to AAs for creating Fall 2018 sections, worked with the English and Math Department Chairs to schedule the SS sections and worked with colleagues across the College to find computer labs needed to teach and practice the SS-SLOs.

Due to high demand for computer labs, there were not enough labs to meet the demand for fall 2018 SS sections. The initial plan was to purchase computer carts with laptops for SS classrooms. However, IT said that laptop carts are not a good investment. Pathways leadership worked with Rob Stanicic, Provosts, Campus Administration Deans, IT, Construction and Facilities to identify classrooms on each campus to be converted to computer labs for SmartStart. The project is funded with funds from Frontier Set grant and the IT budget.

All of the academic transfer MAPS were reviewed by the Mapping Team with an Advisor to ensure the MAPs were still accurate. Several MAPs had to be modified because of changes in recommended MATH courses on UH Main and UHCL website. Faculty began mapping a path to University of Houston, Downtown, Texas A&M University, and Sam Houston State University. However, this work was suspended so that the Mapping teams could use a transfer tool developed by Matt Lewis. This tool will make mapping and verifying accuracy much easier.

PATHWAYS WORK

San Jacinto College sent teams to the following Pathways focused meetings: AACC Pathways Institutes 5 and 6, Texas Pathways Institutes 3 and 4, Frontier Set Convening, and the University Innovation Alliance. Presentations about the work at San Jac were made at Texas Pathways Institute #4, Frontier Set Convening, and the University Innovation Alliance.