

# Critical Collaborations for Student Success

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# OVERVIEW

1. Shared vision: Focusing on the whole student to improve persistence, retention, and completion of your students
2. Framework: Effective collaboration between Student Affairs and Academic Affairs
3. Method: Data informed decision making across the college

# Effective Collaboration Between Student Affairs and Academic Affairs, AKA "Critical Partnerships"

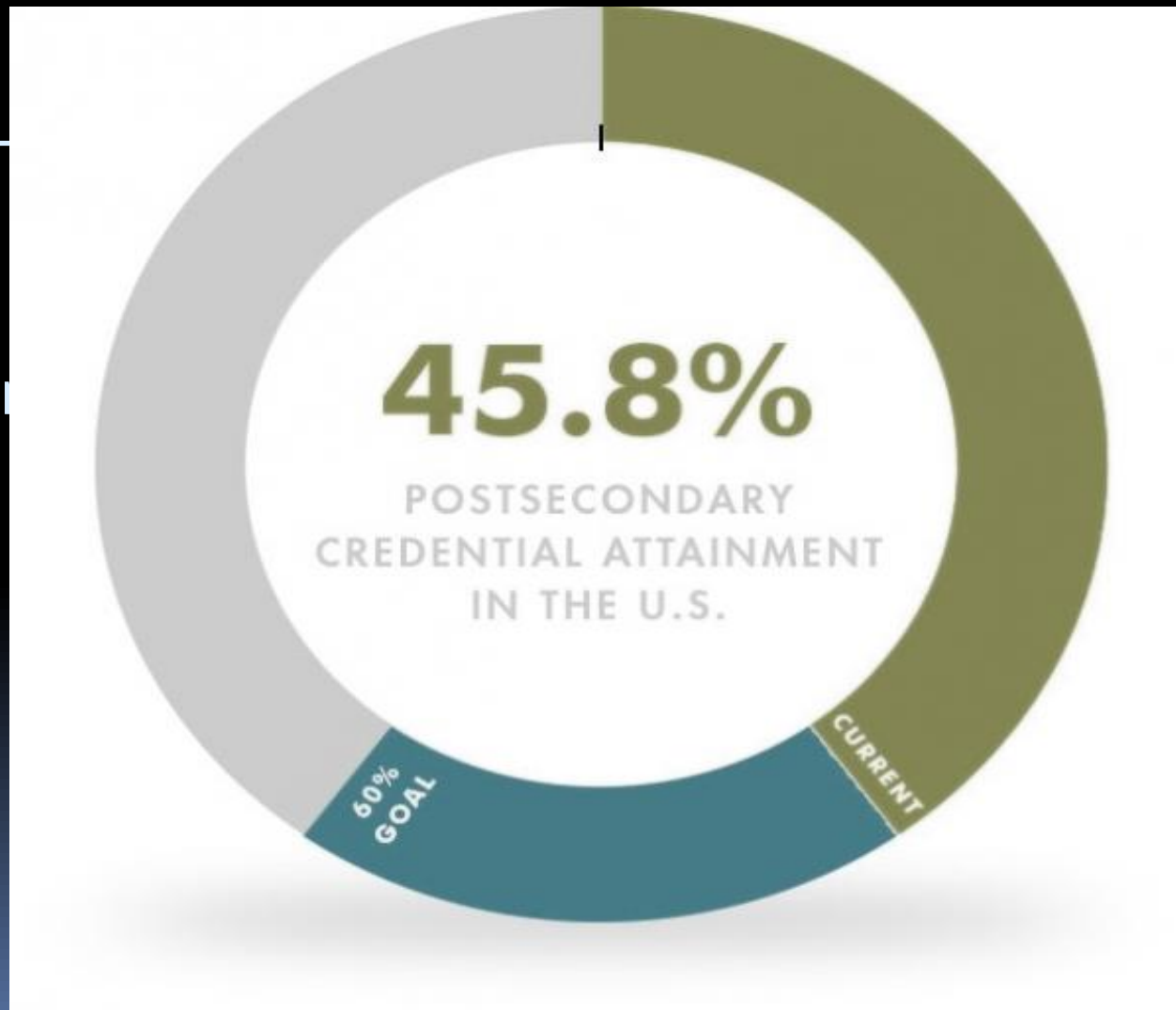
□ WHAT

□ HOW:  
support

□ WHO:

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## For Discussion:

- ❑ Describe functional partnerships between Academic Affairs and Student Affairs at your college.
- ❑ What is important to the success of the partnership?
- ❑ What is the impact for student learning and success?

What do you envision for your partnership model?



Why Encourage Collaborations  
Between  
Faculty  
and Student Service  
Professionals?



“Out of the 11.6 million jobs  
created  
in the post-recession economy,  
11.5 million  
require postsecondary education”

- - Pew Research Center



1. Family incomes have declined for a third of American children over the past few decades.
2. Upward social mobility is limited in the United States.
3. The children of high- and low-income families are born with similar abilities but different opportunities.
4. College graduation rates have increased sharply for wealthy students but stagnated for low-income students.
5. A college degree can be a ticket out of poverty
6. New low-cost interventions can encourage more low-income students to attend, remain enrolled in, and increase economic diversity

# What do we know is critical about Faculty and Student Service Professionals working together in support of student success?

- ❑ Students cannot succeed by academic initiatives alone
- ❑ Creating authentic partnerships between academic affairs and student affairs models collaboration
- ❑ Developing solutions 'together' creates transparency and easy access for students
- ❑ Integration of services is more efficient and more effective

*Powerful Partnerships :  
A Shared Responsibility for  
Learning*, argues that



“partnerships between academic and student affairs personnel and organizations are the best way,” to achieve the most effective and powerful student learning.

*Powerful Partnerships: A Shared Responsibility for Learning.* 1998.  
Washington D.C. AAHE, ACPA, NASPA

# Who are Student Services Professional Staff?

- ❑ Advisors
- ❑ Counselors
- ❑ Supplemental  
Instructors
- ❑ Tutors
- ❑ Enrollment  
Management Staff
- ❑ Registrars
- ❑ Admissions and  
Recruitment Staff
- ❑ Financial Aid Staff
- ❑ Student Affairs  
Administrators

# Integrated Student Services... What's the value-add?

- ❑ Integrates cognitive and non-cognitive learning-social/emotional development as a learner
- ❑ Facilitates collaboration-instructors & counselors can address student needs & enhance learning
- ❑ Encourages students to take advantage of support services
- ❑ Helps to reinforce student-centered environment
- ❑ Builds a 'we' voice rather than 'us and them'



# Examples of Integrating Student Services into Academic Initiatives

- ❑ Recruiting and registering students into initiatives
- ❑ Functioning as a full member of the instructional team
- ❑ Working with faculty partners to discuss student progress
- ❑ Meeting with students one-on-one to re/remove roadblocks
- ❑ Facilitating early intervention where needed

# Partnership Models

Where you are

Where you want to be

## Continuum

### Discrete

- Specialized, isolated staff roles
- Customer service oriented
- Teaching is seen as preeminent, Student Services as the “handmaiden”
- Efficiency/bureaucracy comes above learning

Informal incorporation of student support elements through regular information sharing, referrals, or course requirements

### Fully Integrated

- Linked/embedded support service
- Support service professionals are educators
- Services support learning
- Dedicated tutor, counselor

**Where is your collaboration? Where do you want to be?**

# Partnership Forces



## Inhibitors

- Paradigm differences
- Hierarchy
- Territoriality/Silos
- Unequal representation
- What else?*



## Supports

- Unshakeable focus on student learning & success
- Diverse voices in planning and implementing
- Commitment from leadership
- What else?*

# Partnership Options/Opportunities?

- Learning Communities
- Guided Pathways
- Peer mentoring
- Early Alert System
- College Advisory council

-includes student *and* academic affairs



# Questions?

