**Bernard Rodgers Speech Outline Example**

*Speech Title:* With the Right Support, Going to College is a Lot Like Learning to Ride a Bike

*Specific Purpose:*  To inform my audience about three RIT support services housed in the Division of Diversity & Inclusion that supported me in becoming a successful first generation college graduate.

**Introduction**

 I.                “Growing up”

A.    I, like many of us, had to accomplish one of the seemingly scariest tasks known to men.

B.    Learning to ride a bike without training wheels.

II.              Picture this, a smaller version of me and fear all over my face.

A.    Before I know it, bam!  I fall; hard.

B.    The next thing I hear is “Get Up and try again.”

III.            Like me, any of you may experience times in life where you need “support” from someone who, like my dad, sees something in you that you can’t see, but can coach you in a way that works.

IV.           The experience of learning to ride a bike paralleled a few of my experiences in college.

V.             Today I want to share with you three of RIT’s support services housed in the Division of Diversity & Inclusion that supported me in becoming a successful first-generation college graduate.

VI.           The three support services are the Rochester City Scholars (RCS) program, the Multicultural Center for Academic Success (MCAS) and Men of Color, Honor and Ambition (MOCHA).

(*Transition:*  Let’s start with the RCS program.)

**Body**

 I.                One of the first support services I encountered was the RCS program.

A.    RCS is a full tuition scholarship program.

                             1.      It is given to students who successfully meet certain criteria.

                             2.     It is offered to students who gain acceptance into RIT under regular admission standards.

B.    RCS addressed my initial worries.

                             1.      One worry I had was a student like me coming from a public high school.

                             2.      Another worry I had was jumping to paying $50,000.00 a year, which seemed daunting.

C.    Through RCS’s financial support, I was able to . . .

                             1.     Attend a private institution that afforded me an amazing education.

                             2.     Have life changing experiences like studying abroad that completely expanded my view of the world.

(*Transition:*  Now that you know something about the first support services I encountered, let’s look at the second line of support services.)

II.              The second line of support services I received came from the Multicultural Center for Academic Success (MCAS).

A.    MCAS makes a point to help all its students to successfully complete college.

                             1.     MCAS facilitates coaching sessions and provides an experienced advisor.

                             2.     MCAS hosts events that immerse you into campus life.

                             3.     MCAS helps you build networks on campus and beyond.

B.    I gained so much through MCAS.

                             1.     I learned that my initial struggles were not because I wasn’t smart.

                             2.     I learned that my initial struggles were because I had no clue how to study in college.

(*Transition:*  Now that you know the second line of support services I received, lets discuss the last support service.)

III.            The Men of Color, Honor and Ambition (MOCHA) is the last support service I’ll discuss.

A.    MOCHA is a one-year collegiate male development program.

                             1.     It fosters success through brotherhood.

                             2.     It fosters success through experiential exposure.

                             3.     It fosters success through seminar like sessions.

B.    MOCHA’s support was apparent to me through its many services that assisted me in understanding that being ourselves is the true power we have and exploring new things assists you in unlocking your potential.

                             1.     In our fitness sector of the program, we tried Bikram yoga or hot yoga.

                             2.     The Bikram yoga session was a great bonding activity.

**Conclusion**

 I.                For me, learning to ride a bike was a lot like going to college because in each scenario, I learned that as long as you have the right support, you can do anything.

II.              The Division of Diversity and Inclusion programs at RIT was that support for me and the reason I am a successful, first generation college graduate.

A.    The RCS program granted me financial support.

B.    The MCAS Center supported me throughout college with experienced mentorship.

C.    MOCHA exposed me to opportunities for advancement during and post college.

III.            The best thing about learning to ride a bike or make it through college is that once you do, you get to share it with others.

**Bibliography**

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