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LEARNING LOG 10,604

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DETAILS

MAKING IT WORK, UNDERSTANDING WHAT WORKS, AND SHARING WHAT WORKS

TITLE

10,604

SOLUTION

Redesigned Planning Advising and Student Services; Digital Learning and Next Generation Digital Courseware; Developmental Education Reform and Supports for Learning

CAPACITIES

Strategic Finance; Policy; Leadership & Culture; Information Technology; Institutional Research

Owner

Kimberley Polly (/education/s/profile/0053600000471wzAAA)

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Record Type

Monthly-Current 2017

INSTITUTION

William Rainey Harper College

REFLECTION

SITE INITIATIVE

In 2009, President Obama challenged community colleges to graduate 5 million additional students with certificates and associate degrees over the next 10 years. Harper College computed what part of that was our responsibility based on our number of graduates compared to the number in the nation: our number was 10,604. We needed to have 10,604 more graduates than the 22,000 we expected to have over the next 10 years.

PROGRESS TOWARD STUDENT SUCCESS®

On Saturday, May 20, 2017 we exceeded our goal three years early. The graduating class of 2017 marked our achievement of graduating an additional 10,604 students.

IMPACT₁

• Before Dr. Ender (our college president for the last 8 years) was hired, our college measured success by headcount and enrollment numbers. Over the last 8 years our college has transformed to one that is focused on student success and now we measure success by completion.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL RESOURCES®

Work for this goal started back in 2010. We worked to form partnerships with businesses, our sender high schools and transfer colleges. We worked to rethink developmental education. We performed degree audits to find students who had "stopped out" with just a few classes to go to complete and contacted them about coming back to complete those last few classes. Through degree audits we also found students who had earned all of the credits for a particular certificate or degree, but they were not aware that they had.

NEXT CRITICAL STEPS®

Although we reached our intial goal of 10,604, our team has not stopped to further our work toward completion. We are currently implementing a new advising structure starting this summer and have created 10 areas of interest (metamajors). We are currently working on degree plans and FYS courses for each of these areas.

OPPORTUNITIES/CHALLENGES

Completion is a challenge at a community college. Students often just take a few classes to get certain skills for a job they already have, or often they take a year of classes and then transfer to a 4-year institution without having completed a degree with us. Many of these students have met the goal they had in mind, but they have not met our goal of completion.

QUESTIONS/REQUESTS •

How do other community colleges record student intent for IR purposes?				
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