

Student Success Update

COLLEGE ACTION PROJECTS

Project Title: Increase Student Persistence by Making CLS 100 Mandatory

Project #: 5.1.1

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Date: November 2012

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Highlights

- Fall 2008, CLS 100 becomes the third class in College Learning Studies. It is a First-Year Experience course for students not placing into developmental courses.
- Winter 2011, PY 100 (now 097) becomes mandatory for students placing into three or more developmental courses
- Fall 2011, Strategic Leadership Team approves CAP 5.1.1 to make CLS 100 mandatory for new students who are not required to take PY 097
- Winter 2013, PY 097 becomes mandatory for new students placing into two or more developmental courses

Introduction

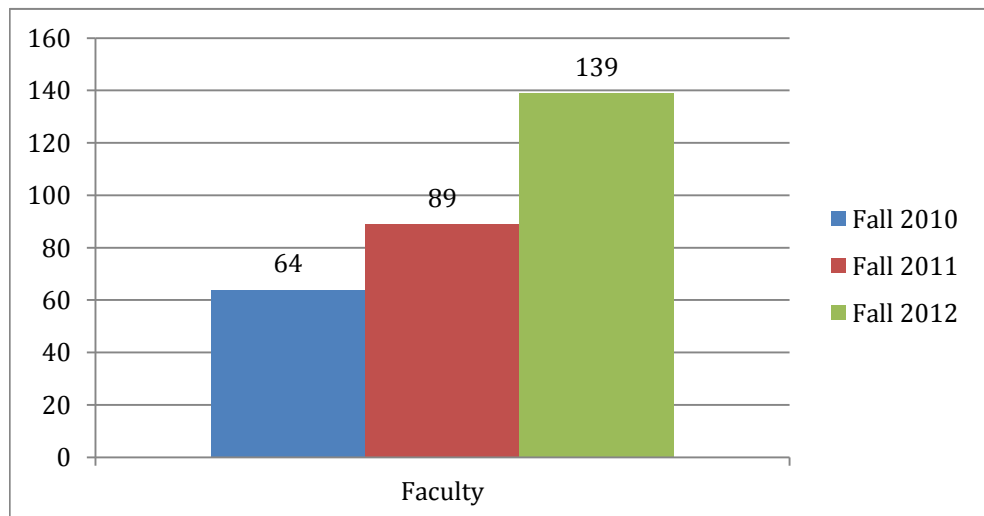
CAP 5.1.1 was created by the SLT Success sub team to address new student success at GRCC. In 2008, GRCC created a first-year experience course entitled College Learning Studies 100 (CLS 100). Student persistence data from this course and student feedback from course surveys have indicated CLS 100 has a positive impact on student persistence. Furthermore, students indicate they have met the learning outcomes of the course and 80-90% of them would recommend the course to a new student at GRCC.

Purpose

The purpose of this project is to make CLS 100 mandatory for new, degree seeking students. Students who take CLS 100 have a higher fall to winter and fall to fall persistence rates than new students who do not take CLS 100 (Fall 09 to Winter 10: 85% CLS 100, 80% non-CLS100; Fall 08 to Fall 09: 56% CLS100, 54% non-CLS100). Activities would include: adopt policy on mandatory FYE, increase pool of available faculty to teach CLS 100 and implement registration automation so that all new students are made aware of the need to enroll in CLS 100 (or PY 097 if two or more developmental placements).

Results

Faculty Pool Trained to Teach CLS 100



GRCC

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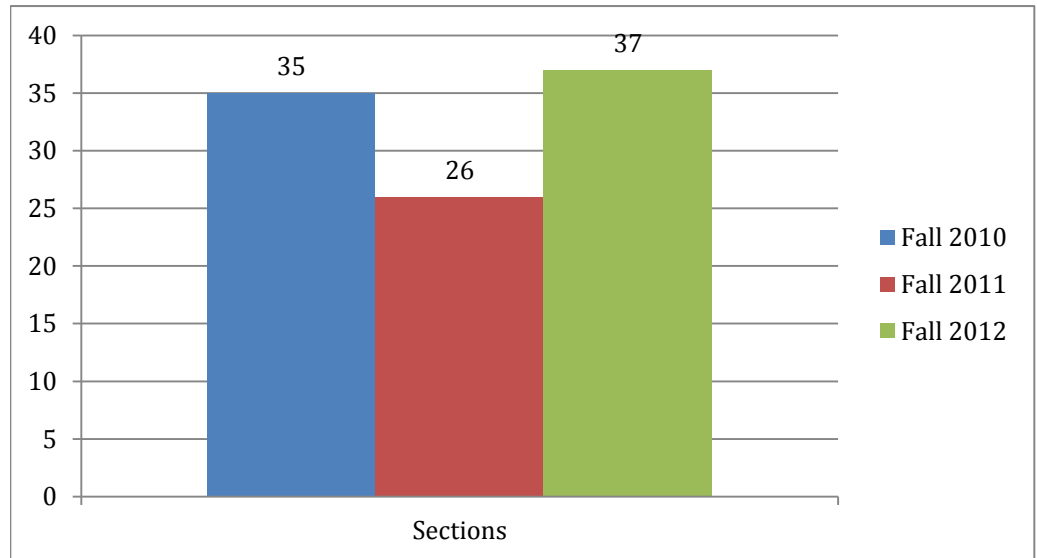
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Goals:

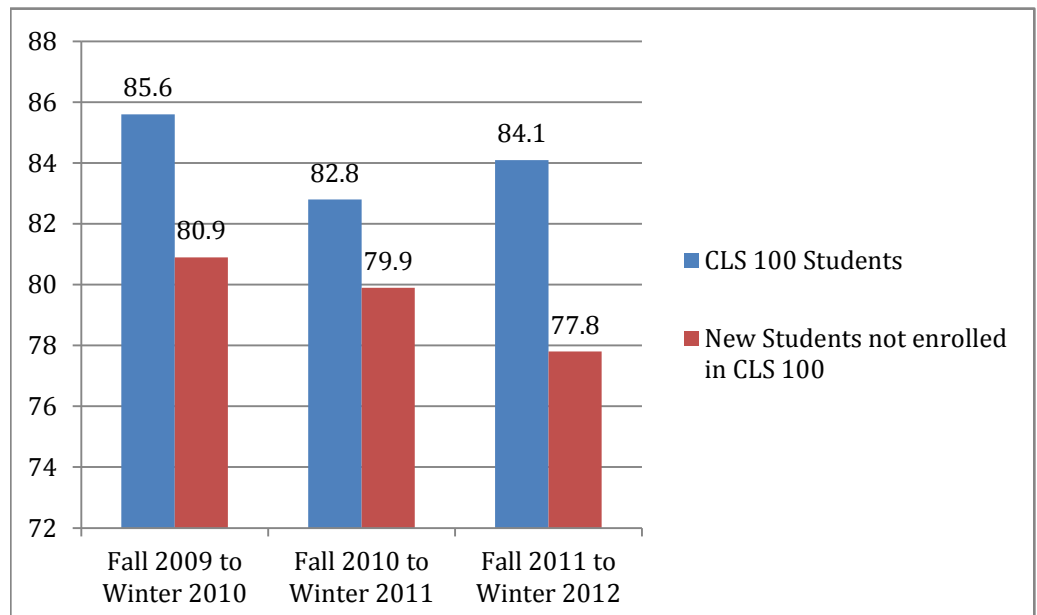
- ✓ Increase Faculty Pool to teach CLS 100
- ✓ Draft Policy for review and approval by Academic Governing Council
- ✓ Increase Sections offered every semester
- ✓ Make CLS 100 mandatory for new, degree seeking students in PeopleSoft
- ✓ Continue data collection and continuous improvement in the course so that persistence, graduation and transfer goals are met

Results (cont.)

Number of Sections Offered During Fall



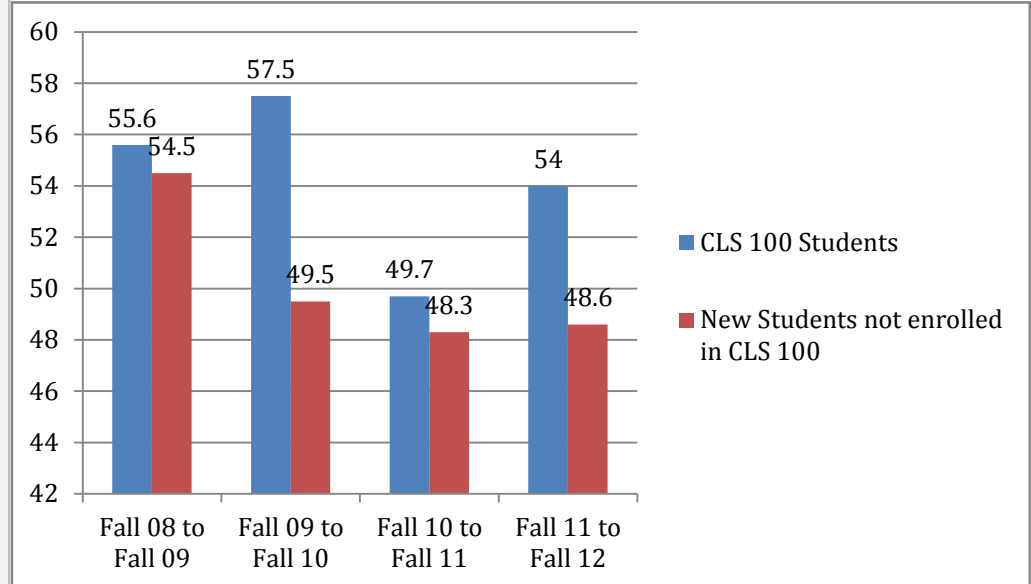
Fall to Winter Persistence Rates



Challenges

The challenges associated with this work are common to any project of this size: staffing, technology and gaining acceptance by the campus community. Should this CAP be approved, it will require approximately 150 sections in the fall, 50-75 in the winter and 10-20 in the summer. Faculty in some academic programs are concerned about credit creep, while others welcome an additional course for students to take while waiting to get into a limited enrollment program.

Fall to Fall Persistence Rates



Next Steps: Present to Academic Governing Council the draft Policy and answer remaining questions, November 13, 2012

1. AGC votes on Mandatory CLS 100 at the December 11, 2012 meeting
2. If AGC does not approve Mandatory CLS 100, College Action Project will be closed, CLS 100 continues as an optional course.
3. If AGC approves Mandatory CLS 100, work continues in the team around the following:
 - a. Finding a way in PeopleSoft to make it electronically required
 - b. Completing the hybrid/online work to offer CLS 100 in a variety of formats
 - c. Creation of a Challenge Exam option for students who possess knowledge, skills and abilities contained in the course outcomes
 - d. Seeking approval for a faculty member to become the CLS 100 Coordinator (through Release or Equated Overload)
 - e. Refine faculty training program, including online training
 - f. Refine course evaluation plan
 - g. Update catalog and communication materials
4. Mandatory CLS 100 begins for students new to GRCC in Winter 2014

