

Project M.O.S.T. Summary of Outcomes Fall 2012 to Spring 2014

Obj	Objective with Planning References	Means of Assessment & Criteria for Success	Assessment Results, Interpretations, and % of Achievement	Use of Results for Improvement
1	Recruit 120 students who actively participate in the MOST program for the each year of funding (SP1.2.1)	Collect quantitative data of those recruited for the program and who actively participate in program activities to exceed 80% of recruitment goal.	Each year the program is required to recruit 120 new students. At the beginning of the new fiscal year, October 1, 2012, 307 students had been recruited and had completed applications to participate in the program during the first budget period. Using a variety of recruitment strategies (i.e. classroom visits, speaking at high school programs and PTSA meetings as well as new student orientation sessions, telephone and email outreach), as of end of Spring 2013 semester, 438 additional applications had been submitted (70% increase) . Presently, there are 124 first-semester freshmen enrolled along with a combined total of 230 returning active participants in the program (103.3% of fall 2013 recruitment goal) for a total of 354 active students .	Exceeding the targeted goal for this semester ensured that the projected recruitment goal of 120 students was met and maintained despite the occurrence of attrition. The successful recruitment strategies utilized will continue to be used in the future.
2	Increase the fall-to-fall retention rate for active program participants. (SP 2.1.1)	Document the active engagement of program participants using intrusive counseling techniques to proactively ensure maximum class attendance, early detection of academic difficulty, and recommended intervention/support services where needed to achieve a fall-to-fall retention rate of 70% for program participants .	The program's use of the intrusive counseling model and the bi-weekly Academic Progress Reports aided in enhancing the fall-to-fall retention data. The fall-to-fall numbers showed that out of the 164 active participants at the end of fall 2012, 124 students returned to register for the fall 2013 semester, representing 103% of the 120 goal and 75.6% retention rate for fall-to-fall (fall 2012 – fall 2013). <i>(National Center for Education Statistics reports, the average fall-to-fall retention rate is about 58% for public 2-yr. institutions.)</i> 105 new students enrolled during the spring 2013 semester and of that number, 75 students returned for the spring 2014 semester at a 72% annual retention rate. 124 new students enrolled for the fall 2013 semester and of that number, 94 students returned for the spring 2014 semester at a 75.8% retention rate. To date, each cycle has consistently exceeded the projected retention rate goal of 70% .	Continued use of the intrusive counseling model and data collection along with the recommendations of the Program Evaluator to strengthen and improve outcomes (i.e., intensive training, orientations, focus groups, surveys, etc.)

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3	Increase the number of active program participants who develop good soft skills to enhance their classroom performance and their ability to acquire internships, and job placement referrals. (M3)	Program staff will assist students in developing and meeting Educational Plan (EP) goals as well as facilitate soft skills development workshops to enhance classroom performance, acquire internships, job placements, and persistence toward meeting graduation requirements by 70%.	<p>All students completed a battery of assessments to aid in determining career interests, possible barriers, learning styles, and self-efficacy. Also, they attended staff-conducted workshops on soft skills development during the bi-monthly MOST Success meetings. In addition, intensive workshops on “Emotional Intelligence” and “Ethical Literacy” that served to reinforce the importance of soft skills in the classroom as well as the workplace. To reach the maximum number of MOST students, our meetings were held at the two main campuses.</p> <p>Partnering with Career Services, job opportunities were made available to the students. Subject-matter experts and successful entrepreneurs conducted workshops and agreed to assist with internships for the MOST students. Our students are also encouraged to participate in the college work-study program and to register with the local WIN offices. Based on attendance records for the bi-monthly meetings, approximately 75.4% of the students were impacted by these services.</p> <p>An awards program entitled, “Men in Black” recognizing the academic achievements of our participants took place on February 7, 2014. During the program, 91 men were recognized for attaining a semester GPA of 3.0 and above. (see attached article from the college newsletter).</p>	Program Evaluator will be assessing the program for ways to strengthen and improve outcomes (i.e., focus groups, surveys, etc.).
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NOTE: Beginning the fall semester of 2013, as indicated in our initial Grant Award Notification, the program began issuing scholarships to M.O.S.T. students who formally requested them. For fall 2013, the program awarded a total of 107 scholarships to assist the M.O.S.T. students. For spring 2014 graduation, a total of **42** M.O.S.T. students graduated from with Associate Degrees and/or Certificates; also, 97 scholarships were awarded. During the summer 2014 semester, a total of 42 scholarships were awarded; awarding a total of **246** awards in the amount of **\$348,224.00**. These awards have had a positive impact on our ability to retain many of our students in college and have served to enhance their overall success.