

Academic Department Student Success Plan Annual Update: 2016-2019¹



Department: School of Music

Department Chair: Paul Bro

Department Mission: The mission of the School of Music at Indiana State University is to prepare students for careers and continued study in music education, music business, performance, and music as a liberal art. Recognized for its long history of training music educators and members of the music business community, the School offers a range of undergraduate and graduate degrees in a personalized environment. We provide community engagement opportunities, develop life-long learning skills, and international exchange. The School promotes awareness and appreciation of the musical arts through courses for all university students and serves as a cultural resource for the university, local community, and the state through outreach, special events, and public performance.

The Indiana State University School of Music is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music. The School of Music Advisory Board, formed in Spring 2015, has suggested that the unit include as updated Mission Statement that is more concise, a Vision Statement, and a set of core values to be included in the Strategic Plan by Fall 2017. The Administrative Advisory Committee within the School of Music is currently working toward these goals.

Department Freshmen (1st year) Retention Goal(s):

The School of Music's goal is to increase the 1st year retention rate of freshmen to 80% by 2019

Action Steps² (with dates & person(s) responsible):

- A. A faculty committee continues to work toward the creation of a 4-semester theory sequence, eliminating MUS 101. This would allow all theory courses to be included in the core curriculum. (Theory Reconstruction Committee – Fall 2017)
- B. Continue to assess the current scheduling and sequence of classes within the School of Music to insure the course load for freshmen is reasonable and manageable. (Director and Administrative Advisory – Fall 2017)
- C. Continue to develop strategies to identify students who are struggling as early as possible, and to implement intervention through advising and regularly scheduled meetings with the freshman cohort. (Academic Advisors/University College Advisor – ongoing)
- D. Improve the mentoring/tutoring services in the areas of music theory and history by closely monitoring the attendance and effectiveness of each session that is offered. The purpose is to insure accountability and to intervene when necessary. (Theory/History Faculty & Director – Fall 2016)

¹ Plan updates are due to your Dean by Nov. 4 as informed by your 2015-16 End-of-Year Report that is due to your Dean by Oct. 3.

² **Action Steps Defined:** The specific activities/actions taken to realize progress toward the goal. Such action steps should include not only student support type activities/actions but also student learning enhancement focused activities/actions.

<i>Retention Benchmarks</i> (by latest department)	Fall 2013 Cohort: 68.97%	Fall 2014 Cohort: 67.39%	Fall 2015 target & actual: 68% (target) 71.43% (actual)
	Fall 2016 target: 75%	Fall 2017 target: 77.5%	
			Fall 2018 target: 80%

Other Freshmen Retention related benchmarks of focal interest to department

None

Department Persistence to Completion Goal(s):

The School of Music's goal is to increase the 6-year graduation rate to 35% by 2019.

Action Steps (with dates & person(s) responsible):

- Faculty committees continue thorough examination of the music theory and music history sequences. We will also work to improve and monitor the tutor/mentor services in both these areas (Theory/History faculty and MCAC – Fall 2016).
- Implement the use of a survey questionnaire for students who decide to change their major. Results of this survey should allow our unit to make improvements in areas that are identified as problematic (Director – Spring 2017).
- Due the current FTE model being used by the university, the scheduling of “off-sequence” theory and skills courses is nearly impossible. This is a definite barrier to degree completion. Therefore, the School of music needs to evaluate the use of personnel resources to maximize the expertise of our faculty and staff. (Director – Fall 2017)

<i>Completion Benchmarks</i> (by latest department)	Fall 2010 Cohort: 26.92%	Fall 2011 Cohort: 30% (target)	Fall 2012 target & actual: 32.5% (target)
	Fall 2013 target: 35% (target)	Fall 2014 target: NA	
			Fall 2015 target: NA

We are working with the 6-year graduation rate because Music Education has an exemption from the 120 credit limit and the 4-year graduation guarantee. Currently, Music Education accounts for more than half our majors and minors in the department (114 out of a total 196). The School of Music is already higher than the university average according to Blue Reports. We will continue to work to improve our 4-year graduation rate (which improved by 8.14% this past year), but does not truly represent the success rate in the School of Music.

Other Persistence to Completion related benchmarks of focal interest to department

None

Other Goal(s), Action Steps, and Benchmarks of focal interest to department:

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