Indiana State University

Academic Department Student Success Plan
Annual Update: 2016-2019[1]

Department: Psychology

Department Chair: Virgil Sheets

Department Mission: The Department of Psychology assists students to achieve their personal and professional potential through training in scientific methods and discipline-specific knowledge, promoting a spirit of active inquiry and critical thought, and fostering a sense of social responsibility.

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

To increase retention 2% per year.

Action Steps[2] (with dates & person(s) responsible):

1. Examine frequency of PSY majors in majors/non-majors sections and compare completion & retention in major rates (Chair collects data and shares with faculty, Spring 2017).
2. Promote visibility of undergraduate psychology organizations (Psych Society & Psi Chi). (Director of Undergraduate Studies, Spring 2017).

Retention Benchmarks (by latest department)	**Fall 2013 Cohort:** 59.33%	**Fall 2014 Cohort:** 62.50%	**Fall 2015 target & actual:** 61% target; 60% actual
	Fall 2016 target: 62%	**Fall 2017 target:** 64%	**Fall 2018 target:** 66%

Other Freshmen Retention related benchmarks of focal interest to department

As noted last year, we are seeking to reduce DFDr rates in PSY 101, a large-enrollment FS class that can impact overall campus retention. Although they appear down (and completion rates are up), there is still significant room for improvement.

Relevant Action Step: Planning is underway to alter the number/nature of activities & assignments required in the class (with planned revisions to take effect in Fall 2017). PSY 101 coordinator & Faculty.

Department Persistence to Completion Goal(s):

To increase 4-year degree completion by 2% per year.

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

1. Examine success of curricular changes on student progress through major.

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[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.

a. Review PSY 375 completion rates before and after changes in prereqs and additional instructional hours added in Fall 2016 (Dept. Chair collects and shares with faculty, Fall 2017).
b. Monitor hours completed by graduating seniors to assure new requirements (implemented Fall 2016) are not impacting overall hrs-to-degree (Dept. Chair collects and shares with faculty, Spring 2018).
2. Examine whether summer enrollments of campus students (at each level, Fr, So, Jr, Se) are increased with additional online offerings (which should facilitate ability for on-time degree completion). (Dept. Chair collects data and shares with faculty, Fall, 2018).
3. Evaluate whether additional credit hours in major (implemented in Fall 2016) are impacting overall hours to achieve degree (by comparing degree hrs of graduating seniors before and after). (Dept. Chair collects data and shares with faculty, Fall, 2019).
4. Identify approaches to improve attendance at Next Step seminars for seniors (designed to improve degree completion and post-graduate success). (Director of Undergraduate Studies collects data and shares with faculty, Spring 2017 with follow-up if changes identified).
5. Administer & share results of revised advising assessment (Dept. Chair administers and shares with faculty, Fall 2016 with follow-up if problems identified).

Completion Benchmarks (by latest department)	**Fall 2010 Cohort:** 22.45%;	**Fall 2011 Cohort:** 25.49%	**Fall 2012 target & actual:** 27% target; 25.47% actual
	Fall 2013 target: 27.5%	**Fall 2014 target:** 29.5%	**Fall 2015 target:** 31.5%

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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