First Year Student Success Initiatives
at Indiana University Kokomo
CCAS 2016 Annual Meeting

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Background

- 3000-student public regional campus

- Commuter campus

- Many first generation students

- Many students coming from economically disadvatanged backgrounds

- Lately first-year retention has rested in the 60% to 65% range, generally slowly increasing

- Performance based funding

- Need to grow enrollment

- Employ professional advising staff

- One of 8 campuses

Motivations

1. Retention and success are crucial

2. Accreditation Quality Initiative

3. Creation of administrative position for student retention

4. Acceptance into American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) initiative: Reimagining the First Year of College (RFY)

Initiatives

Bridge program

- 3 years of pilots with target groups, expanding focus

- Largely funded through grants

- Have tried 2 week, 1 week models

- Connect students to campus, each other

Learning Communities

– Repair the program

   • Focus on sustainability, shared governance, data collection and assessment

– Pilot of large blocks--this year

   • Humanities and Social Sciences Majors

   • Undecided Majors

   • 3 courses plus attached student success course

– Mini blocks--campus wide next year

   • Most are "optionally" blocked as suggested blocks

   • 2 courses plus attached student success course

   • Organized into meta-majors

Revise Probation and Dismissal Letters

- For tone

- Information

- Be more supportive, encouraging

Orientation

- Smaller sessions

- Intake surveys concerning risk

- Sessions based on response

- Focus on non-cognitive factors

Focus on non-cognitive factors

- Growth mindset

- Stretch yourself/grit

- Belonging

Student Success Academy

- Focus on faculty of first-year courses

- Teach them best practices for student success

- Incentivize through stipends, recognition through annual evaluation and P&T process

Others

- Identify and revise key gateway courses

- Improve data collection and usage

- Pilot incentive for innovations

Useful Sources

Completing College, Vincent Tinto

Rethinking College Retention, John M. Braxton, William R. Doyle, et al

Increasing Persistence, Wesley R. Habley, Jennifer L. Bloom, Steve Robbins

Developing and Sustaining Successful First-Year Programs, Gerald M. Greenfield, Jennifer R. Keup, John M. Gardner

Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance, Angela Duckworth

Various works by David Yeager

Click to add engaging text

1. Make your concise point here.

2. Slides with multiple paragraphs of text have shown to significantly decrease the attention of the audience.

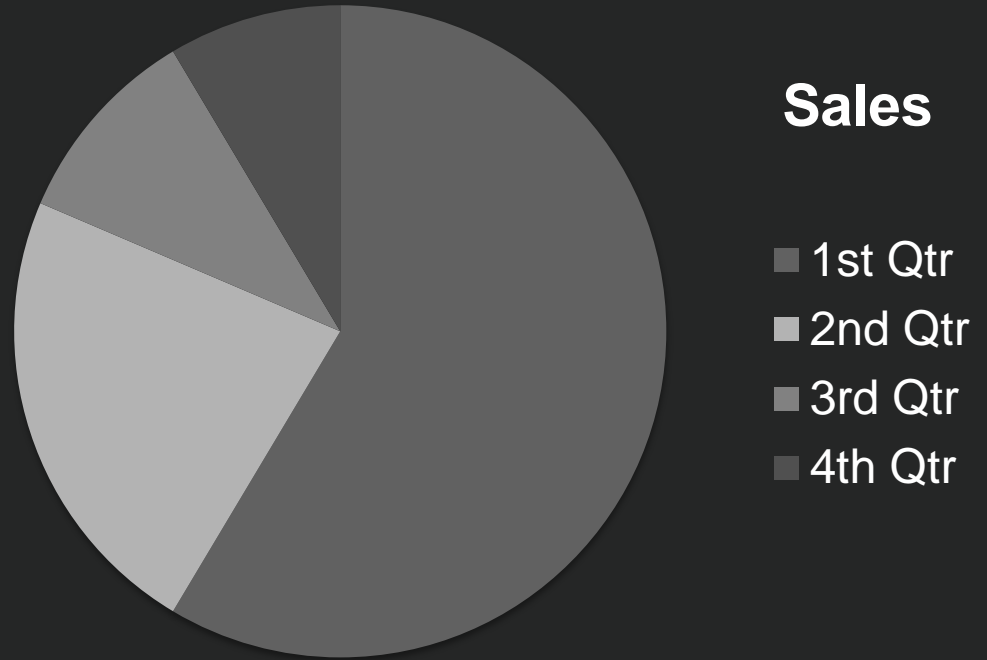3. Let your slides breathe — it lets the audience listen to you.

Click to add engaging headline text

- Keep your message **short** and **concise**. No one wants to read a PowerPoint that rivals *"War and Peace"*.

- Use color, size, and weight to add emphasis.

- Add images that support your content

Sales

- 1st Qtr
- 2nd Qtr
- 3rd Qtr
- 4th Qtr

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Presentation

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- Learning Communities
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    - 3 courses plus attached student success course
  - Mini blocks--campus wide next year
    - Most are "optionally" blocked as suggested blocks
    - 2 courses plus attached student success course
    - Organized into meta-majors
- Revise Probation and Dismissal Letters for tone, information
- Orientation
  - Intake surveys
  - Sessions based on responses
- Non-cognitive factors
  - Growth mindset
  - Belonging
- Student Success Academy

- ○ Focus on faculty of first-year courses
- ○ Teach them best practices for student success
- ○ Incentivize through stipends, recognition through annual evaluation and P&T process
- Identify and revise gateway courses
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