

April 2017 Guided Pathways Monthly Update



Guided Pathways for Student Success (GPSS)

Guided Pathways are like a GPS for our students: the goal is to give students a tool that ensures when they leave South, they will land solidly in a career or at a four-year college or university.

On the surface, implementing the Guided Pathways model seems linear: Clarify the Path, Help Students Enter that Path, Help Students Stay on the Path, and Ensure Students are Learning. But, like any good path in the Pacific Northwest, getting to that pinnacle involves switchbacks and altitude gains and drops.

This monthly update is aimed to give you a sense of South's GPSS journey—think of it as a quick water break to catch your breath and glimpse the view. Let us know what you think!

Progress Update: Clarifying the Path & Helping Students Enter a Path

Prototype Program Map Developed: Program maps lay out a clear sequence of courses and a predictable schedule to help students see the path to their career and educational goals. Program maps fall under career clusters (sometimes referred to as MetaMajors) and are a tool used for setting the annual course schedule. The Guiding Team's Program Mapping Subcommittee has identified 40 program maps to be developed over the next year. They recently worked with Academic Transfer's business faculty to develop the Associate in Business Degree map, which will be used as the prototype for the process. If you are interested in working with the Program Mapping Subcommittee or learning more about the process, please contact Jesse Knappenberger, Hana Gala, Stephanie Delaney, Laura Kingston, or Veronica Wade.

Late Registration: Research has shown that students who are allowed to register late are more likely to withdraw or fail their class: the Guiding Team has created a Registration Subcommittee to look into the issue as it relates to South's students and systems. The subcommittee has reviewed case studies, established a set of guidelines, and members are currently reviewing processes and gathering more information. A survey has been distributed to students to collect their feedback, with more than 120 responses. The subcommittee will meet in mid-May to crunch that data, review input from various departments, and pull it all together to make a recommendation. The goal? Design a system that results in the vast majority of students enrolling on or before the first day of class while ensuring that any change helps more students than it hurts. The target date for recommendations is the end of May. If you would like to contribute to this process, you can email Joyce Allen or Veronica Wade.

GPSS Monthly Quiz: *(answers under signature line)*

Data Point: What is South's average 4-year completion rate for full-time students?

GPS Term: What is a MetaMajor?

- a) Common courses between specific programs that are used to form the early quarter(s) of pathways to keep options open to students as they explore within the first one or two quarters.
- b) The newest band to come out of South's Music Department.
- c) A set of broad content areas clustered around similar careers. Upon enrollment, students choose one in order to be directed to the academic requirements that are common across multiple disciplines.
- d) All of the above

Still to Come –A Guided Pathways resource web page is in the works--we'll keep you posted!

Questions, comments, ideas? Contact the Guiding Team at SSCPathways@seattlecolleges.edu or chat with any of the team members.

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Guided Pathways at South is a collective effort to culturally and systematically change the way our students interact and engage with the College. From prior to enrollment through completion, we are pursuing a strategic integration of our systems, services and instruction that will ultimately remove barriers and confusion, while promoting an increase in retention, completion and the closing of achievement gaps among our students. Student's experiences will be heightened with tools, resources and supports that are clear, structured and defined that increase their success, development and achievement. Our students will know why they are here.... how we support.... and how to succeed.

Answers to Quiz:

1. 21%
2. C