Finish Up Illinois

FORUM FOR EXCELLENCE
SEPTEMBER 22, 2015
Overview

- Finish Up Vision and Illinois’ Assets
- State Survey
- Considering Opportunities
- Audience Input and Feedback
The Vision and Illinois’ Assets

BRIAN DURHAM (ICCB)
The **Finish Up Illinois** initiative will learn from initiatives and strategies that have proven effective and expand this work to target students who departed public universities without official completion of their baccalaureate degrees. This work is designed to assist students who might have otherwise failed to complete their degree to do so, or to assist qualified students to realize they have completed all degree requirements.
Student Populations

- Students who transfer early to a 4-year institution without the associate degree (in Illinois or out of state)
- Students who leave community or 4-year colleges with enough credits to earn a degree but without the degree awarded for whatever reason (e.g., financial holds, failure to apply for graduation, advising errors)
- Students who have 9 - 12 hours of required credit hours for the associate’s or baccalaureate degree, but who left the community or 4-year college
National Initiatives

- **Credit When It’s Due (CWID)** – Funders Collaborative includes Gates, Kresge, Lumina, USA Funds, Helios and others
  - OCCRL is funded by Gates to research CWID
  - 16 states – 401 colleges and universities

- **Project Win Win (PWW)** – Funded by Lumina
  - Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP)
  - 9 states – 61 colleges
# Illinois’ Initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative</th>
<th>Connecting to Finish Up Illinois</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Illinois Articulation Initiative</td>
<td>Workforce Strategic Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Illinois Longitudinal Data System</td>
<td>Math/Developmental Education reform</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extensive Local Reverse Transfer, Degree Audit, and Related Initiatives</td>
<td>MyCreditsTransfer powered by Transferology</td>
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<td>Career pathways</td>
<td>Accelerating Opportunity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credit for Prior Learning and Prior Learning Assessment</td>
<td>Illinois Pathways/STEM Learning Exchanges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dual credit/enrollment</td>
<td>STEM Guided Pathways Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workforce Data Quality Initiative</td>
<td>Regional Collaborative Networks</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- How can we set Illinois apart? What should we avoid?
- What themes cut across the initiatives that can or should be connected to Finish Up Illinois?
State Survey Results—
on reverse transfer, degree audit, and near-completer initiatives

DEBRA BRAGG (OCCRL)
Survey Results

My institution is a...

- Primarily associate-granting public: 41.0%
- Primarily associate-granting independent not-for-profit: 9.6%
- Primarily associate-granting proprietary: 3.6%
- Primarily baccalaureate-granting public: 26.5%
- Primarily baccalaureate-granting independent not-for-profit: 14.5%
- Primarily baccalaureate-granting proprietary: 4.8%
- Other (please specify): 3.6%

83 responses
Survey Results

College has (or is a Partner in) a Program that Audits Student Records for Reverse Transfer

- Yes: 56.1%
- No: 32.9%
- Unsure/Other: 11.0%

82 responses
Survey Results

**Degree to which Reverse Transfer has been Implemented**

- **Unsure/Other**: 7.3%
- **Permanent or ongoing program**: 58.5%
- **Pilot or temporary program**: 26.8%
- **Planning stage**: 7.3%

41 responses
Survey Results

Student Populations included in the Program’s Audit Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Students</td>
<td>63.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students who already transferred to a four-year institution</td>
<td>46.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students who stopped or dropped out</td>
<td>26.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other or additional criteria</td>
<td>39.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

41 responses
Survey Results

Interest in Launching Reverse Transfer

- Yes: 65.1%
- No: 20.6%
- Unsure/Other: 14.3%

63 responses
Survey Results

College has (or is a Partner to) a Program that Searches Records for Drop Out or Stop Out

- Yes: 34.4%
- No: 44.3%
- Unsure/Other: 21.3%

61 responses
Survey Results

Degree to Which Project Win Win Has been Implemented

- Unsure/Other: 10.7%
- Permanent or ongoing program: 57.1%
- Pilot or temporary program: 25.0%
- Planning stage: 7.1%

28 responses
Survey Results

Interest in Launching Project Win Win

- Yes: 56.4%
- No: 27.3%
- Unsure/Other (please specify): 16.4%

55 responses
Feedback on Survey Findings

- Do these data reflect what you’ve heard is going on in Illinois? What is emerging? What is missing?

- What questions or possibilities do these data suggest to you?
Considering Opportunities
Looking Ahead: Positioning the State

Would the table below, or a version of it be a helpful visual? Or put this

Goal: To implement successful strategies and practices through consensus building and implementation across state agencies and institutions. Define and agree upon responsibilities and appointments to critical areas of work to craft a viable proposal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scope of Work (Credit When It’s Due, OCCRL)</th>
<th>Oversight, Policy, Evaluation, and Funding</th>
<th>Technology</th>
<th>Student Identification and Consent</th>
<th>Transcript Exchange, Degree Audit, and Conferral</th>
<th>Academic Policy Change and Alignment</th>
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<tr>
<td>Notes</td>
<td>Entity or agency to plan sustainability in policy and funding, and evaluate and disseminate best practices.</td>
<td>A work group tasked with overseeing choices and implementation about technologies, including SLDS, National Student Clearinghouse (NSC), local technology options and manual transfer, etc.</td>
<td>A work group tasked with choices, engagement, and implementation regarding processes and policies for defining target student populations, gaining consent, and FERPA compliance issues.</td>
<td>Closely related to the technology work group, this group engages stakeholders in creating institutional consensus and to optimize these processes.</td>
<td>As systems and institutions work through student data, a work group fields questions about course equivalency and “choke points” in requirements preventing completion.</td>
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Reverse Transfer Illinois?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reverse Transfer Illinois</th>
<th>General</th>
<th>Tier 1</th>
<th>Tier 2</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A collaborative reverse transfer/enhanced degree audit initiative targeting students who transfer to a 4-year institution in Illinois without the associate degree credential and students who leave the community colleges with enough credits to earn a degree but without the degree awarded for whatever reason.</td>
<td>Would this be a pilot, at what level? A study of existing efforts? An effort limited to certain aspects of advancing CWID practices?</td>
<td>At scale, this Initiative would bring together all willing institutions across the state to conduct a baseline study; set criteria, create work groups, and design an operational plan and related policies to ensure support and incentives at the institution- and agency-level; select a technology and data system, etc.</td>
<td>Input?</td>
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# Project Win Win Win Illinois?

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<td><strong>Project Win Win Win Illinois</strong></td>
<td>Would this be a pilot, at what level? A study of existing efforts? An effort limited to certain aspects of advancing PWW practices?</td>
<td>At scale, this initiative would bring together all willing institutions across the state to conduct a baseline study; set criteria, create work groups, and design an operational plan and related policies to ensure support and incentives at the institution- and agency-level; select a technology and data system, etc.</td>
<td>Input?</td>
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<td>A collaborative degree audit and student outreach initiative targeting students who leave the community or four-year colleges just shy (9-12 credits maximum) of the number of credits necessary to earn a credential or degree, or those who left the four-year college having fulfilled the requirements without receiving a degree.</td>
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## Pathways Illinois?

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<td><strong>Pathways Illinois</strong></td>
<td>Build on Illinois’ deep and rich experience with career pathways and other work in the state on “guided pathways” to design an integrated approach to college completion that capitalizes on strengths.</td>
<td>Conduct “asset mapping” to clearly identify strengths throughout the state and link these strengths to baseline activities and anchor for other college completion innovations</td>
<td>At scale, this initiative would bring together all willing institutions across the state to conduct a baseline study; set criteria, create work groups, and design an operational plan and related policies to ensure support and incentives at the institution- and agency-level; select a technology and data system, etc.</td>
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Finish Up Illinois
Input and Feedback
FACILITATED DISCUSSION
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