



Behavioral and Social Sciences Guided Pathways Success Team

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[*] = Student Team Member

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Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 2:02 PM

Discussion Items

“Gateway” Courses

Chris Gold reported that she had notified Guided Pathways of the team’s discomfort with the term “gatekeeper,” as that term has undesirable connotations, and Guided Pathways has subsequently settled on “gateway” instead.

Team members looked at the gateway course dashboard prior to the meeting, and discussed which courses were the best candidates for designation as gateway courses. We narrowed it down to five potential courses, and had a vote by Google survey on (a) how many courses to designate for the Fall 2021 semester, and (b) which courses to designate. There was some dispute over the second course during an email discussion after the meeting, and thus even though the team initially decided to designate two courses, we only designated one (Psychology 101).

Program Mapper

Overall, the team was impressed by the Program Mapper tool, and Mary McMillan noted that it was a great resource for mapping out zero textbook cost (ZTC) pathways in the Meta Major.

The team did have some questions and recommendations, however. First, the terminology was potentially confusing. Since we call Fall and Spring “semesters,” and Winter and Summer “sessions,” the Program Mapper used the word “term” for both. This makes it difficult initially to understand the starting point of the “map.” Other team members noted that the color coding of the classes was initially confusing, however, we did make sense of it after a few minutes. Perhaps there could be a color code key added to make it more obvious.

The team also noted that the map was static, rather than interactive. Since some students don’t begin their “path” in the Fall semester, we thought it might be nice to make the map more interactive in the future so that it can serve as a tool for students to explore the course requirements for the different majors. It would be nice if the Program Mapper could be used to allow students to explore different options for adjusting their course of study based on their circumstances.



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Mary McMillan questioned whether a user design study has been conducted with students. If not, then she would recommend doing one.

Finally, the team would like to integrate more information on career options into the Program Mapper. Some of the material that was created for the Social Science 101 course, which has a built-in career exploration portion, could be used for this purpose. It might be good if students had the option of selecting a starting term (Fall, Spring; Summer, Winter), part-time or full-time, and whether it is a certificate or degree that they are interested in.

ECC Connect Filters

The team reviewed the information on ECC Connect filters provided by Dora Miranda, and there were no specific requests for new filters.

Tasks

Faculty Co-Lead Reed will relay the teams feedback about Program Mapper, and the decision to designate PSYC 101 as our gateway course for the Fall 2021 semester. He will also seek clarification on the degree to which Program Mapper can be modified.

Data Coach Yara Farah will continue to work with Mary McMillan and Institutional Research and Planning office to analyze data on ZTC and retention.

The team will mull over the questions of (a) how many courses to list as gateway courses for Fall 2021, and (b) which ones to designate, via Google survey and email discussion.