

Retention, Success, and Support Investment

OVERVIEW

To support examination of student retention, success, and support, the San Diego-Imperial Regional Consortium will host a **"Strong Workforce Program (SWP) Institute: Rethinking the Student Experience for Retention and Success."**

The purpose of the SWP Institute is to inspire faculty to 1) think critically about their courses and programs in terms of retention, persistence, and success outcomes; 2) use course and program data to better understand current outcomes; and 3) use data to develop promising solutions in the classroom that improve outcomes.

INSTITUTE DESIGN

The SWP Institute will have three parts:

1. Professional learning events
2. Faculty project
3. Research investment

Professional Learning Events

The first in-person professional learning event will be held in ~~early Fall semester~~~~August~~ 2019. This will be a half-day convening where...

- Keynote speakers share their promising practices (i.e., interventions supported by data and research that contribute to increased student retention, persistence, and success)
- Faculty observe an example of how to complete the project (see "Faculty Project" below)
- Faculty understand what needs to be done by the next convening (i.e., expectations are set)

The follow-up professional learning event will be held in January 2020. The purpose of the follow-up convening is to share promising practices and lessons learned from participating in the SWP Institute.

The faculty will receive a stipend for attending both events and completing the project.

Faculty Project

At the end of the first convening, faculty will be assigned an investigative project that has two parts. The first part comes with a set of primary research questions to assist faculty in gaining insight into their students' retention and success outcomes. The faculty will also be given a list of secondary, follow-up questions as an example of what to research after obtaining baseline information about their courses and programs. This is a collaborative project between faculty and researchers.

The second part of the assignment comes with a mock work plan. Faculty will use the information learned to develop a data-driven intervention/support at the classroom level that improves student retention, persistence, and success. This mock work plan could be used in the future when faculty apply for resources at the local level.

Research Investment

The Regional Consortium will invest \$1 million over 2 years to support the 10 community colleges' research efforts. A Request for Applications (RFA) will be released and colleges will have the opportunity to submit a response, indicating what they will do with their funding (e.g., purchase research tools, dedicate more research hours) to help faculty work collaboratively with researchers.