

*“Taking a comprehensive approach to student success means finding a way to communicate with every campus stakeholder who holds a piece of the puzzle. And by connecting what is happening inside the classroom with what is happening outside of it, we can provide not one, but multiple safety nets for our students.”*

**The Charge**

- Engage students in unique ways to encourage their persistence and success by building upon existing and new programs at the university.
- Work to make parents and other relatives of students an integral part of the educational experience.
- Develop partnerships with academic departments and individual faculty members that promote student success.
- Create an environment that fosters relationships between students who live in the residence halls that offers academic, social, community building and other programs that directly influence success.

**Goal I**

*Enhance Services offered through Adult and Commuter Student Services.*

**Strategies**

- A. Continue to create and evaluate community engagement opportunities targeted specifically toward the commuter student experience.
- B. Develop a dedicated online presence directed at adult and commuter students.
- C. Explore the availability of student gathering spaces across campus that encourage affinity between students and the University.

**Goal II**

*Expand existing, and create new programs for the parents and families of our students.*

**Strategies**

- A. Establish a concerted effort to collect parent and family contact information.
- B. Create a framework for communication that addresses the needs of families and parents.
- C. Collect and analyze data on what parents and families require, and want, in order to feel more connected to the university.
- D. Design a parent and family web site that allows access to relevant programs and services.
- E. Develop and implement additional enhancements to the parent/family component of new student orientation to include workshops, networking, and personal growth opportunities.
- F. Engage younger siblings and dependents of current students to provide a rich opportunity for recruitment and affinity building.

- G. Introduce a comprehensive sibling orientation program such as “Little Sibs” during Homecoming or a “Little Sibs” weekend.

### **Goal III**

*Achieve greater impact on student success through residential life.*

#### **Strategies**

- A. Develop partnerships between the Residence Life Office and university constituents to offer special events in the halls and beyond.
- B. Intentional training of student Resident Advisors (RAs) and Resident Leaders (RLs) to engage students and assist with first-year transition issues.
- C. Establish new expectations for RAs and RLs including participation in campus events such as athletics, the arts, workshops and community service projects.
- D. Familiarize all student affairs staff with MyDegree@State.
- E. Offer incentives for faculty to work with residential hall students.
- F. Continue to focus residence life programming on community building and participation in larger community events versus “floor programs.”
- G. Explore the availability of tutors, academic advising, etc. in the residence halls.
- H. Explore the concept of living and or learning communities in the residence halls.

### **Goal IV**

*Develop a more robust student experience outside of the classroom.*

#### **Strategies**

- A. Create a sub-committee of the Retention and Student Success Council that focuses on learning that occurs outside of the classroom.
- B. Expand “Welcome Days” – number of activities and overall connection and experience.
- C. Enhance student-peer engagement through leadership development, community service, service learning, and diversity experiences.
- D. Assess the learning outcomes that result from activities that occur outside the classroom.
- E. Enhance/expand presence of varied student organizations and student activities.
- F. Develop a relationship between our general education curriculum, student activities, and cultural activities to enhance the type of cultural events that we bring to campus.