William Rainey Harper College

Building Community through Student Success
September 2011
Achieving the Dream 2011-2012 Update

- Background on Achieving the Dream (ATD)
  - National
  - Illinois

- Review of the Harper College Implementation Plan with ATD

- Status Report as We Begin Year Three
Achieving the Dream is...

- A national nonprofit dedicated to community colleges.
- Focused on helping community college students succeed; particularly the underprepared.
- Based on data-informed decision-making.
  - Identify achievement gaps
  - Develop interventions
  - Evidence of Effectiveness

Success is what counts.
Achieving the Dream has established a network of:

- 160 Achieving the Dream community colleges in 30 states and the District of Columbia serving more than 2 million students
- 100+ Achieving the Dream Coaches and Data Experts
- 16 Achieving the Dream State Policy Teams that are driving public policy reform
Illinois ATD Community Colleges—joined 2009

- Harper College
- Danville Area Community College
- Elgin Community College
- Morton College
- Triton College
Harper College Strategic Plan: Seven Student Success Initiatives

- Connect for Success
  - REACH Summer Bridge Program *
  - Early Alert- Project Success*
- Placement for Success
- Accelerate for Success
  - Accelerated Pipeline
  - Choice Scholars Institute*
- Partner for Success
  - COMPASS testing in the high schools*
  - Alliance for College-Readiness

*Pilot Stage 2011-12

Success is what counts.
Status Report from ATD
August 2011

Accomplishments:

- **Committed Leadership**
  - Executive level involvement
  - Student Success focal point of strategic plan
  - Area consortium with high school districts and alliance work with faculty and staff
  - Presentations at regional and national conferences
Use of Evidence

- Evaluation process for intervention strategies
- Development of student success tracking reports
- Accountability Team to coordinate evaluations and data gathering

Broad Engagement

- Investment in professional development
- Inclusion of area superintendents (college-readiness and at the Strategy Institute)
- Communications at the Board level
Systemic Institutional Improvement

- Growing culture of evidence
- Expanded Champion Team and Decision-making Model
- Student Success embedded in planning meetings and budget processes
Recommendations for 2012

■ Strengthen strategic communication efforts
■ Strengthen research efforts:
  ● Longitudinal data tracking
  ● Refine evaluation plans
  ● Timeline for data collection
■ Continue implementation and increase size
■ Deepen diversity and equity dialogues
■ Further collaborations across units
Achieving the Dream
Strategy Institute

February 28 – March 2, 2012
Dallas, Texas
It’s ALL about . . .

. . . Student Success !

Success is what counts.