

**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



# 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



# 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**



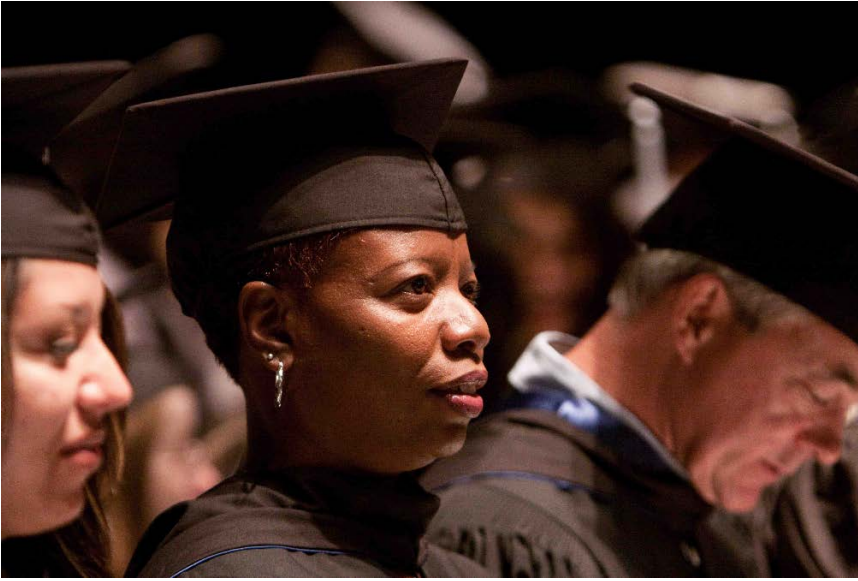
# Achieving the Dream Strategy Institute

February 28 – March 2, 2012  
Dallas, Texas



*Success is what counts.*

# It's ALL about . . .



# . . . Student Success !

ACHIEVING  
THE DREAM™  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGES  
COUNT

*Success is what counts.*