

VINCENNES UNIVERSITY



Interim Report on Efforts Aligning with Recommendations of Indiana Career Council Community College Best Practices Taskforce

January 22, 2014

INDIANA'S FIRST COLLEGE FOUNDED IN 1801

ACCELERATION TO COMPLETION

- **Co-Requisite course offerings in Math and English**
 - Continued pilot program pairing remedial English and Reading with Introduction to Business
 - Expanded use of 8-week remedial courses (stacking)
 - Established a University-wide “work group” charged with assessing VU’s current practices in remediation, including evaluation of pilot programs
- **Accelerated Degree Programs**
 - Continuing exploration with school districts to develop Early College High School programs
- **Industry Partnership Work-School Models**
 - Launch of Career Advancement Program at VU Jasper, which will offer an internship-based academic program for seven Dubois County manufacturers based on the Toyota model
 - Continued discussions with members of Indiana Automotive Council regarding potential development of a Toyota model program for other key employers throughout the State
 - Received Lilly Foundation grant for “Interns Plus” program, to be launched in 2014
- **Alternative Paths to Remediation**
 - Plans to double enrollment in MyFoundationsLab program based on successful 2013 pilot
 - Expansion of MyFoundationsLab program in Early Colleges
- **Block Scheduling at all Campuses**
 - Block scheduling already in place at VU Jasper for all students and at VU Vincennes for Toyota program
 - VUJC CAP program will utilize block scheduling
- **Focused Strategies for Working Adults**
 - Development of a “continuum” of program formats for BSN students utilizing fully distance education, hybrid schedules (combining distance education with limited on-campus sessions) and fully on-campus formats to offer students the widest possible set of options to work into their schedules
 - Exploring development of a Weekend College for VU Jasper Campus

INFORMED CHOICES AND PROACTIVE ADVISING

- **Degree Maps**
 - Implementation of Degree Planner in Degree Works for all advisors and students
- **Programs Facilitating and Encouraging Full-time Enrollment**
 - Participation in the “15 to Finish” campaign, including promotion on VU social media and websites, presentations for students and parents at all orientation sessions, and inclusion in admissions materials
- **Meta-Majors Programming that are Aligned with Primary Employment Sectors**
 - Negotiations with Purdue to expand VU’s Engineering articulation agreements to encompass additional disciplines. VU is looking to eliminate its individual Engineering concentrations in favor of a single “Pre-Engineering” concentration, permitting VU students to maintain a greater flexibility in determining engineering career paths before reaching Purdue
 - Exploring new programming in electronic media to offer students in journalism, broadcasting, graphic design, web design, audio recording, and communications a foundational path toward careers and transfer programs encompassing a broader skill set

LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

- **Professional Development**
 - Recently held University-wide seminar focused on helping “Low Self-Advocating Students” succeed, with participation of faculty and staff at all levels of the institution. This session built on previous programs with Dr. Kathleen Gabriel, which presented strategies for teaching and advising underprepared students. Plans to hold follow-on sessions during May professional development week.
- **Meaningful Linkages between Education and Workforce Outcomes**
 - Implementing University-wide survey of all advisory group members for VU’s programs as part of the University’s institutional and programmatic assessment efforts
 - Continuation or expansion of industry-based curriculum and equipment partnerships in key fields such as precision manufacturing, industrial maintenance, diesel mechanics, CAD/CAM, and welding, including long-standing partnerships with John Deere, Haas Automation, Lincoln Electric, as well as new partnerships with Hurco and Cummins
 - Launch of CNC Now, a 16-week accelerated training program targeted at veterans and others, leading to several industry certifications in precision manufacturing