Student Success Plan
Definition of Student Success

Students accomplish their educational goals as a result of the holistic experiences provided by DSU.

VISION STATEMENT

DSU provides an engaging environment for learning, inspired by dedicated faculty and staff who mentor, encourage, and challenge students to attain their goals.

Linking Student Success to Institutional Success

Because Student Success is paramount to success for the entire institution, DSU has deliberately tied the Pillars of Student Success to the 5-Year Strategic Plan; Excellence Through Innovation 2020. The overarching University Goals include:

- Educate to Inspire – DSU promotes active engagement in scholarship, teaching, and learning to prepare students to excel in their disciplines and be leader in their communities.
- Grow to Thrive – By improving access and opportunity, DSU will enroll, retain, and graduate a larger, more diverse student body.
- Innovate to Transform – Continuously enhance our academic programs, university facilities, student services, and campus technologies to become a more effective and efficient university.
- Collaborate to Lead – By fostering collaborative relationships with internal and external stakeholders, DSU will expand educational opportunities for students.
Pillars of Student Success

The Student Success Committee has identified the principle pillars that promote an environment encouraging student success:

- **Academic Achievement:**
  students achieve satisfactory or superior levels of academic performance as they progress through and complete their college experience.

- **Technology-Infused Curriculum & Services:**
  students employ innovative technology that supports and/or enhances the learning experience.

- **Engagement and Collaboration:**
  students engage with faculty, staff, and their peers throughout their time at DSU.

- **Personal Development:**
  students develop life-long learning skills that promote a healthy sense of being and accomplishment.

Student Success Praxis

DSU recognizes that in order to see measurable gains in Student Success, it must identify processes and procedures that reinforce Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) in the Pillars listed above. Since the institution has a developed program for vetting CQI and PIED (Plan, Implement, Evaluate, and Decide) projects, it was natural for the institution to leverage this process. Where currently, the Higher Learning Commission’s accreditation program AQIP (Academic Quality Improvement Plan) requires one Action Projects (of three) to be focused on Student Learning, DSU will internally require that an Action Project will always be centered on Student Success.

Each year, the Student Success Committee will call for proposals on a specific topic from the campus as a whole. The Committee will vote on the proposals that will encompass an Action Project. Annually, attention and campus-wide support will be provided for those proposal(s) that address the Action Project as identified by the Student Success Committee. Scoring will be executed by each Committee member and a vote will decide the winner, should there be a tie based on rubric score.

Student Success Proposal Evaluation

The Committee will evaluate proposals by referencing the Pillars of Student Success and scoring them on a rubric using a Likert scale. Proposals will need to include:

- Student population that will be impacted
- Pillar of Student Success that will be impacted
- How success will be measured

The Committee will pay particular attention to how excellence will be achieved as part of the initiative, and will look for ways to replicate and scale-up initiatives for broader impact.