Empowering Diverse Students Through Learning Communities

Lori A. Catallozzi, Dean of Humanities and Learning Communities
Lloyd Sheldon Johnson, Professor of Behavioral Sciences
Lee Santos Silva, Professor of English
BHCC’s Student Success Agenda

- Learning Communities
- Student Outcomes Assessment

Academic Success, Persistence & Program Completion

- Professional Development
- Integrated Support Services
Why Learning Communities?

- Build relationships & support networks across multiple lines
- Enable students to spend more time together in & out of the classroom
- Change the manner in which students are taught
- Promote a deeper learning than is possible in traditional courses
- Increase student retention & success

Gabelnick, Macgregor, Matthews & Smith; Tinto; Lardner
Student Participation in Learning Communities 2007-2011

- Fall 2007/Spring 2008: 229
- Fall 2008/Spring 2009: 854
- Fall 2009/Spring 2010: 2144
- Fall 2010 – Summer 2011: 4000

Data: Engaged Campus Office
Successful Course Completion

Stand-alone Versions vs. Developmental Clusters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Stand-alone Versions</th>
<th>Developmental Clusters</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2008</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2009</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2009</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2010</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2010</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>79%</td>
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Data: BHCC Office of Institutional Effectiveness
Longitudinal Retention
Fall 2009 Learning Communities Cohort
vs.
All BHCC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Fall 2009-to-Spring 2010</th>
<th>Fall 2009-to-Fall 2010</th>
<th>Fall 2009-to-Spring 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2009-to-Spring 2010</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2009-to-Fall 2010</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Data: BHCC Office of Institutional Effectiveness
BHCC Fall-to-Fall Retention
First-time, Full-time Students
28% increase since 2003

Fall 2003-to-Fall 2004: 43%
Fall 2009-to-Fall 2010: 55%

Data: BHCC Office of Institutional Effectiveness
Fall-to-Fall Retention

Students of Color

13% increase since 2006

Fall 2006-to-Fall 2007: 45%
Fall 2009-to-Fall 2010: 51%

Data: BHCC Office of Institutional Effectiveness
Learning Community Seminar Students:

- Reflect & Assess
- Explore Career Paths
- Develop an Education Plan
- Set Goals & Problem Solve
- Think Critically
- Develop Info Literacy Skills
- Enhance Communication Skills
- Work in Teams
- Engage with Local Community
- Develop Cultural Competencies
“Orange Line” Learning Community Seminar
Fall 2010-to-Spring 2011 Retention

- All BHCC Students: 73% Retention
- All Seminar Students: 83% Retention
- Orange Line Seminar Students: 92% Retention

Data: BHCC Office of Institutional Effectiveness
Learning Community Cluster Students:

- Reflect on learning process
- Display mastery of content and methods of courses involved
- Identify points of integration among courses
- Understand diverse perspectives
- Think critically
- Ask appropriate questions
- Give constructive feedback to peers
- Apply learning beyond classroom
Rites, Rituals & Reasons Cluster
Fall 2010 Successful Course Completion

Stand-alone Psychology: 73%
Rites, Rituals & Reasons Psychology: 83%
Stand-alone English: 64%
Rites, Rituals & Reasons English: 74%

Data: BHCC Office of Institutional Effectiveness
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www.bhcc.mass.edu/learning-communities