Diverse Students, Diverse Challenges
Overview of Today’s Presentation

- The role of Student Affairs in OUS & OHSU
- OUS Student Affairs Council
- Challenges to student success
The Role of Student Affairs

Programs and services that integrate student life and learning and support student success in Oregon’s public universities.
Typical Student Affairs Functions

- Academic Support Services
- Admissions
- Auxiliary Services (e.g., Food Service, Housing, student fee processes, Student Unions)
- Career Services
- Disability Services
- Financial Aid
- Health and Wellness (including Counseling)
- Judicial Affairs (Conduct Code administration)
- Multicultural/International Student Services
- New Student Programs (e.g., Orientation, Freshman Seminars)
- Student Activities & Recreational Sports
OUS Student Affairs Council (SAC)

Our Student Success Agenda

- Collaborating to promote student success at OUS institutions and OHSU
- OUS and OHSU senior student affairs officers, with Chancellor’s Office liaisons
- A student success continuum, extending from new student programming to career planning and graduate success
What we should know about OUS students (examples of student challenges)

- Access and affordability issues
- Academic preparation issues
- The needs of diverse OUS students
Access and Affordability: Student Challenges

- Grant funding does not cover full financial need
  - Pell Grant award levels static for five years
  - Increased reliance on loans and work to cover costs
  - Oregon Opportunity Grant award covers only 11% cost of attendance

- Projected college-ready population will increasingly be from first generation, low income families with little or no experience in higher education
Access and Affordability: Campus Responses

- P-20 collaborations such as ASPIRE, Gear Up, College Goal Oregon, Upward Bound and Pre-College programs attempt to address this issue.

- OUS Admissions and Financial Aid officers provide “information nights” at local high schools to provide awareness and assistance on financial aid issues.

- UO established the Dean’s Access Scholarship in Fall 2007 to augment merit scholarships for first time, lower-income recipients.

- Voyager Tuition Assistance, launched in Fall 2005 at all seven OUS campuses, covers all remaining tuition costs for returning Oregon National Guard and Reserve members deployed in areas of active hostility.
Academic Preparation: Student Challenges

- Academic under-preparation
- Lower SES with limited financial resources
- Between 59% - 80% of entering OUS students are not ready for college math (i.e., College Algebra)
- 32% of OIT student ‘stop-outs’ reported that math difficulty affected their ability to stay enrolled
- More than 25% of incoming OSU students indicated that they would need tutoring or remedial work in math
Academic Preparation: Campus Responses

- EOU’s Integrated Studies Program targets students who test into developmental math/writing
- OSU’s EOP advises at-risk students into developmental courses and tracks their success (70% retention for those following recommendations, vs. 52% for those not doing so—Fall 2002 cohort)
- OIT has developed a self-paced ‘Algebra Review’ course that prepares students for college algebra
- SOU has a web-based early intervention report form that faculty use to alert the Student Support Network that students are having difficulty in class—students are then connected to appropriate resources
Diverse Student Needs:
Student Challenges

From 1999-00 to 2005-06, OUS enrollment of students with disabilities increased from 1,367 to 2,625 – a 92% increase

- Students with psychological disabilities increased 286%, currently ranking third in reported disabilities
- Significant changes in student stress and depression

Demographic shifts; e.g., increases in multi-racial, Hispanic/Latino, and African American enrollment

Life challenges; e.g., students who are parents, childcare needs, working students
Diverse Student Needs: Campus Responses

- WOU implemented a preview day for Spanish-speaking families
- PSU created the Global Community Living Learning Center in Residence Halls
- Several campuses have on-campus childcare centers
- UO has created a Vice Provost for Institutional Equity and Diversity position
- Student Affairs and faculty collaborate to provide disability accommodations on all campuses
Other Potential Topics from Student Affairs Council

- Millennial students
- Workforce development challenges
- Student stress/depression
- Student learning and campus environment
- Parent participation – pros and cons
- Student advocacy – on campus and in the OUS System
Discussion