

Guided Pathways Progress and Status Update

Academic Senate Jan. 27, 2025

Central Goals of Guided Pathways, per CCCCO:

- Ensure students are able to graduate with a degree or certificate and / or complete requirements to transfer to a bachelor's-granting institution within 3 years
- Decrease accumulation of "excess" units (above those required for completion goal)
- Reduce equity gaps across traditionally under-served student groups

Main areas of GP focus at Solano, to date:

- Defining & naming metamajors (2017-18) and developing "pathway maps" (2021-Current)
 - Note: pathway maps are recommended course sequences, but can be difficult to follow in practice as students' course selections are often guided by personal schedule constraints
- Development of pathways-aligned first-semester templates for use in Ed Plans
- Collaborations with Counseling, Career Center, Admissions, Outreach, and HS Counselors to raise awareness of pathway maps
- Outreach and Onboarding activities such as Falcon Welcome Day, Education Plan workshops, Campus tours of Departments, High School Counselor Conference, and tabling at high schools and community events to introduce prospective students to majors at Solano.

Past & current configurations of GPS faculty leadership & campus participation:

- 2017-2020: 1 FT Coordinator reported to VPSS & chaired campus-wide committee
- 2021-2023: 4-5 academic faculty + 2 counseling faculty in smaller coordinator roles; worked directly with discipline faculty on mapping program pathways
 - No broader committee beyond the group of individuals assigned as coordinators
 - Initially reported to VPAA; shifted to VPSS in Spring 2023 (?)
- Fall 2023-present: 1 academic coordinator reporting to VPSS; 1 Counselor coordinator
 - Each coordinator has been serving in a wide range of capacities: scheduling taskforce, success teams planning, welcome / onboarding activities planning & execution; pathway maps maintenance, coordination with outreach & HS counselors
 - GPS Coordinators have focused on joining conversations to continually work towards the four pillars:
 - 1. Scheduling Taskforce
 - 2. Aligning goals & GP workplan with SEA plan
 - 3. Discussions with VPSS and VPAA about their vision for scaling GPS

However, some challenges have limited recent progress:

- 1. Lack of defined structural goals
- 2. No committee structure for campus-wide participation
- 3. Uncertainly about vision and scaling GPS to move forward on pillars 2-4

GPS possibilities that have emerged over years of discussion & observation of other CCCs:

- Re-design website with Pathways as the primary public-facing representation of our programs
- 2-year guaranteed schedule pathways for certain high-demand programs
 - \circ Two identified in the schedule taskforce: Business ADT; Biomedical Sciences AS
- "Success teams" with embedded counselor(s) and success navigator(s) in each metamajor area
- Cohort-model, accelerated pathway(s) to transfer
- Proactive counseling at academic "milestones" (onramp and then at every 15 units)
- Student-facing element of DegreeWorks or another tool to support students in planning and tracking progress-to-goal
- FYE program (many different models available)
- "Opt-out" scheduling, creating default FT schedules for incoming students who could then "opt out" with guidance and intention (goal to increase FT attendance)
- Start pathways in HS, via dual enrollment, CCAPs, and/or alignment with HS "academies"