

Implementation Strategy for the SPACE Center

Step One: Development of the Student Persistence Initiatives (SPACE)

The development of the Student Persistence through Assistance and Collaborative Efforts (SPACE) initiative is on-going. A full-time person was assigned as Student Persistence Counselor thus providing a key element in addressing student persistence and success. The Student Persistence Counselor and other Student Services personnel are working to comprehensively integrate services that meet the needs of our students while encouraging and facilitating persistence. Continuous contact and follow-up with students is the foundation of the student persistence initiative. Counselors maintain regular contact with students (1) to determine the status of their current enrollment, (2) to encourage pre-registration for the following semester, (3) to ascertain problems or concerns effecting continued enrollment, (4) to provide information on college resources and services, and (5) to encourage student engagement.

Step Two: Creation of the SPACE Center – Student Lab

The development of the Student Persistence through Assistance and Collaborative Efforts (SPACE) Center – Student Lab is a major component of the plan to increase the level of student engagement, persistence, and overall student success. The SPACE Center is a collaborative effort between Instructional and Student Services aimed at providing an infrastructure to facilitate and support student academic and social transition by equipping, engaging, and empowering them for success. The physical location for the center was identified, and the renovations and design of the center were planned and carried out by a team of representatives from Student Services, Instructional Services, the college administration, facilities management, and students. The Center is equipped with a computer lab, study areas, a small multi-purpose conference/training room, and staff offices. Students will be able to assess academic support services such as tutoring, counseling, academic advisement, technology-based services, and faculty/instructional resources, as well as non-academic support and resources through this comprehensive center.

The lab will be equipped with the AccuTrack software system which will provide a comprehensive method of student tracking, data gathering, reporting, scheduling, querying, and so forth, and offer a means of maximizing the ability to assess progress relative to objectives and performance indicators.

Step Three: Freshman Academy Collaboration

The SPACE Center will operate in collaboration with the Freshman Academy and the Center for Teaching Excellence and Learning (CTEL).