Grant Overview:

Grant Type: Title V, Part A*
Grant Active Dates: October 2015 - September 2020
Grant Funding Amount: $2,625,500
Focus Areas: Math 2 (College Algebra), Writing, Sense of Belonging, Advising and Faculty Professional Development.

Grant Components:

• Redesigning of College Algebra (Math 2): Math 2 course delivery has been redesigned to disrupt patterns of failure, resulting in improved retention, graduation, and time-to-degree success with a focus on low-income and Hispanic students.

• Developing a Summer Reading for College Writing Institute: Writing Originating from Reading and Dialogue (WORD): WORD is a College Writing Summer Institute to prepare students who are least prepared for university-level reading and writing focusing on students who have an unsatisfied English Language Writing Requirement (ELWR) with a focus on low-income and Hispanic students.

• Deepening Academic Coaching/Advising: Develop a case management-based, academic coaching model delivered through counselors and peer advisers with a focus on low-income and Hispanic students.

• Strengthening Sense of Belonging: Support the Educational Opportunity Programs (EOP) and El Centro in becoming a hub of organized activity and resources that support Hispanic students’ transition, retention, graduation and academic advancement. Programs that fall under Sense of Belonging – 1) Regional Family Conference and 2) Public Forums.

Abstract

The MAPA Project is designed to reduce disparities by implementing four research-based, data-driven, interwoven activities that will enable UCSC to put into place the systemic supports that Hispanic students will need to navigate the university experience successfully. MAPA is designed to intervene early and decisively in key gateway areas, improve retention and graduation rates, strengthen UCSC’s ability to provide essential services for its students, and ultimately improve student achievement. Examples of specific outcomes include, a five-year 15% improvement in pass rates in gateway math courses for Hispanics; a five-year 20% increase in Hispanic students passing the Entry Level Writing Requirement; an additional 150 Hispanic students graduating via the Crossing the Finish Line intervention; 80% of gateway course faculty and 100% of advisors/coaches completing MAPA professional development activities. MAPA’s efforts are organized into four components, as described in the diagram below.

“I learned how to read more effectively to understand the text, as well as make connections to my own life, I was able to learn strategies that were never really taught to me in high school and that I will be using as I enter college”
- WORD Participant

“All the staff members were very welcoming, time efficient... We felt at home. Great educators and so happy my daughter is going to be in good hands”
- Regional Family Conference Participant (UCSC Parent)

“Given my own experience with HSIs – both within and outside of the UC system - I can attest to the ways in which the UCSC HSI task force has clear and direct connections to broader efforts in the field.”
- Robert Teranishi, Ph.D., MAPA External Evaluator

* Title V, Part A Funding: Assist HSIs in expanding educational opportunities for and improving the attainment of Latino students. Grants also enable HSIs to expand and enhance their academic offerings, program quality, and institutional stability.
The program provides students with essential reading tools that can further enhance their academic writing at UCSC. Participants practice their analytic reading and critical thinking skills to understand college-level text and engage in academic dialogue.

A 5 week summer reading program hosted throughout California for incoming UCSC students. The program consists of two parts: a three-week onsite instructions with professional faculty, and a two-week online instruction in which students have reading assignments.

**Words Program**

**Students Served:** 280

**Course Redesign**

**Students Served:** 380

**Classroom Evolution**

Math 2 (College Algebra) has been redesigned to include an active learning approach, reducing class size/TA-to-student ratio, embedding advising and integrating a teaching team (instructor, TAs, tutors, & adviser) to support the course.

**Teaching Assistant and Tutor Professional Development**

Teaching assistants and tutors supporting Math 2 participate in a two-day training focused on inclusive teaching practices using 21st century pedagogy and cultural-relevant teaching/assessment practices.

**Sense of Belonging**

**Students Served:** 308

**Regional Family Conference**

Engages families in a one-day bilingual interactive experiences where they learn about UCSC and how to support their students.

**Public Forums**

Provide a space for the UCSC community and other stakeholders to engage and learn more about the implementation of HSI grants.

**Community Engagement - Lecture Series**

Events intended to promote HSI-campus identity through engaging conversations and presentations on leading HSI research and institutional change.

**Advising**

**Student Support**

Through a holistic approach, the MAPA Counselor provides advising to students participating in grant activities, collaborating with instructors, tutors, teaching assistants, staff and campus leadership.

**Advisors/Counselors Professional Development**

Through the Multicultural Advising Conference, campus-wide advisors and counselors participated in an interactive theater session model to disrupt micro-aggressions and identify strategies to support students.

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