Keeping Students on Their Pathway

Texas Pathways Institute #5 Orientation Webinar
2.4.22
Welcome

Dr. Cynthia Ferrell
Vice President, Texas Success Center

Christine Bailie
Director of Institutional Strategy, Texas Success Center

Dr. Martha Ellis
Pathways Lead, Texas Success Center
Welcome
Texas Pathways Team & Strategy

Pathways Institute Overview
Featured Speakers & Agenda at a Glance

Advance Work
Review of Focus Group Protocol

Question & Answer
Feedback & Questions on Focus Groups Expectations
Funding Partners

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Greater Texas Foundation
The Annie E. Casey Foundation
Lumina Foundation
The Teagle Foundation
Michael & Susan Dell Foundation
Trellis Foundation
Texas Success Center Team

Dr. Cynthia Ferrell, Ph.D.
Vice President
cferrell@tacc.org

Christine Bailie, M.P.Aff.
Director of Institutional Strategy
cbailie@tacc.org

Kristina Flores, M.S.
Director of Research & Evaluation
kflores@tacc.org

Cody Poage
Grants Accountant
cpoage@tacc.org

Sway Youngston
Senior Administrative Associate
syoungston@tacc.org

Nour Hammoudeh
Events Planner
nhammoudeh@tacc.org
Texas Success Center Consultants

Martha Ellis, Ph.D.
Senior Pathways Lead
mellis@tacc.org

Andres Alcantar, M.P.A.
Senior Workforce Lead
Andres.Alcantar@yahoo.com

Tamara Clunis, Ph.D.
Senior Adult and Developmental Education Lead
ttclunis@actx.edu

Dr. Stacy Ybarra, Ed.D.
Research Assistant
sybarra@tacc.org
PATHWAYS FRAMEWORK
Systemic whole-college reform helping students reach their goals

Connect | Enter | Progress | Succeed

Keeping Students on Their Pathway

Learners From Multiple Entry Points

Enter Careers, Earn More Credentials, & Transfer to 4-Year Institutions
1. Mapping Pathways to Student End Goals
   - Multiple entry points
   - Default program maps
   - Completion, further education, employment
   - Guides through transition and transfer

2. Helping Students Choose and Enter a Program Pathway
   - College readiness in 1st year
   - Career exploration
   - Early contextualization
   - Accelerated remediation for most poorly prepared

3. Keeping Students on Path
   - Strong, inescapable advising
   - Clarity for education and career choices
   - Predictable schedules
   - Early intervention
   - Academic and non-academic support

4. Ensuring that Students are Learning
   - Program learning outcomes aligned with careers and further education
   - Internships and apprenticeships
   - Active culturally competent teaching practices

Texas Pathways
Four Pillars of Essential Practices
Overview of Texas Pathways Institute #5

Keeping Students on Their Pathway
Institute Objectives:

• To help more students make progress in a program of study aligned with their interests, strengths, and aspirations, by reimagining and scaling student supports

• To support student progress in a program of study through AEL, micro-credentials, certificates, degrees, and further education, without loss of time and credit

• To develop and scale supports and processes to enable students to make progress in a program pathway leading to a high-demand occupation with family-sustaining wages
Institute Outcomes

As a result of attending Texas Pathways Institute #5, participants will be able to:

1. Examine where students gain and lose momentum as they progress through their program pathway.
2. Analyze strengths, challenges and opportunities associated with existing student support models and processes.
3. Initiate or advance conversations about how institutional practices have differential impacts on historically minoritized groups and how the college can leverage pathways work to close equity gaps.
4. Design or refine student support models and processes to help students from multiple entry points progress along their pathway to their educational and career goals.
5. Produce an action plan to scale systematic supports for students on pathways from AEL, continuing education, dual credit, academic, and workforce programs through completion.
Who Should You Bring?

Institute Team – 7 from roles below

1. President/Chancellor/CEO
2. Chief Academic Officer
3. Pathways Lead (if different than CAO)
4. Chief Student Affairs Officer
5. Career and Technical Education/Continuing Education Support Services Lead
6. Advising Lead
7. Optional
   a. Chief Financial Aid Officer
   b. Adult Education Lead
   c. Institutional Research Lead
   d. Dual Credit/CCRSM Lead
   e. Chief Marketing and Communications Officer
   f. Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer
Registration

Link to registration; emailed **February 7, 2022**
Discount code for your 7 covered team members

**Registration deadline:** **March 7, 2022** (for institute and hotel)

**Late registration** is for institute only. Open through **March 25, 2022**.

Hotel: **Hyatt Regency Houston, 1200 Louisiana St, Houston, 77002**
Keeping Students on Their Pathway

Connecting with your Pathways Coach:

- Dedicated time for college team to meet 1-1 with coach
- Reserve your time slot by 3/30
- 1-hour meeting
- Identify discussion topics
  - Getting to know the team
  - Leadership & new priorities
  - QEP as related to pathways
  - Progress on November’s Commitment to Action Plan
  - Pillar 3 practices
  - Equity
  - Data
  - Student Voices

Texas Success Center
Agenda At a Glance
Featured Presenters

Dr. Sara Goldrick-Rab
Founding Director, The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice

Dr. Linda L. García
Executive Director, Center for Community College Student Engagement

Dr. Marisol Garza
Institutional Support Consultant, Trellis Company

Dr. Richard J. Reddick
Associate Dean for Equity, Community Engagement, and Outreach, College of Education, The University of Texas at Austin
### Pre-Institute Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transforming Campus Communities for Student Parents</th>
<th>Holistic Advising: Moving from a Transactional to a Transformational Model to Better Support Students</th>
<th>Implementing 8-Week Courses with Leader Colleges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Generation Hope</td>
<td>• Ms. Krista O’Neill, Ohio Association of Community Colleges</td>
<td>• Odessa College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Temple College</td>
<td>• Grayson College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Kilgore College</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Agenda at a Glance

**Wednesday, April 6, 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 10:00 - 1:30 | Pre-Institute #1: Transforming Campus Communities for Student Parents  
  - Nicole Lynn Lewis, CEO and Founder, Generation Hope  
  - Reginald Grant, COO, Generation Hope  
  - Portia Polk, Director of Learning and Advocacy, Generation Hope  
  - Caroline Griswold-Short, Director of Programming, Generation Hope |
| 2:00 - 3:15 | Pre-Institute #2: Holistic Advising: Moving from a Transactional to a Transformational Model to Better Support Students  
  - Ms. Krista O’Neill, Ohio Association of Community Colleges & Texas Pathways Coach  
  - Dr. Susan Guzmán-Treviño, Provost/Vice President, Academic Affairs and Student Services, Temple College  
  - Ms. Suzanna Bachman, Director of Advising, Temple College |
| 5:00 - 7:00 | Reception with the Blinn College Band |
| 3:30 - 4:45 | Team Time 1 |
| 2:00 - 3:15 | Opening Plenary  
  - Dr. Sara Goldrick-Rab, Founding Director, The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice |

### Pre-Institute #3: Implementing 8-Week Courses with Leader Colleges  
- Odessa College team  
- Grayson College team  
- Kilgore College team
## Agenda at a Glance

**Thursday, April 7, 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 - 9:00</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 - 10:15</td>
<td><strong>Plenary</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Dr. Linda L. García, Executive Director, Center for Community College Student Engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Dr. Marisol Garza, Institutional Support Consultant, Trellis Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 - 11:45</td>
<td><strong>Team Time 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 - 2:45</td>
<td><strong>Leadership Roundtable (CEOs Only)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Josh Wyner, Executive Director, College Excellence Program Aspen Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 - 12:50</td>
<td><strong>Teams Networking Lunch</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 - 1:40</td>
<td><strong>Birds of a Feather</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:50 - 2:45</td>
<td><strong>Concurrent Sessions</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:55 - 3:50</td>
<td><strong>Concurrent Sessions</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 - 5:00</td>
<td><strong>Team Time 3</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00</td>
<td>Dinner on Your Own</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Agenda at a Glance

**Friday, April 8, 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 - 9:00</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 - 10:15</td>
<td>Plenary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Dr. Richard Reddick, Associate Dean for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Equity, Community Engagement, and Outreach,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>College of Education, The University of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Texas at Austin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 - 12:00</td>
<td><strong>Team Time 4 (Action Planning)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Call for Proposals

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TPI5PATHWAY

Due March 4th

- Advising Practices
- Student Support Systems
- TRUE Texas Pathways Supports
- Early Interventions
- Culture
Hold the Dates!

Event Registration

- **February 7:** Registration opens
- **March 25:** Registration closes

Call for Proposals for Institute Sessions

- **February 7:** Call for proposals
- **March 4:** Proposal submission deadline
- **March 10:** Selections announced
- **March 30:** Deadline to submit session materials to share
Advance Work: Student Focus Group(s)
Advance Work: Pre-Readings

Pre-Readings:

• Center for Community College Student Engagement. (2018). *Show me the way: The power of advising in community colleges*. Austin, TX: The University of Texas at Austin, College of Education, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy, Program in Higher Education Leadership.

• Center for Community College Student Engagement. (2021). *The continued impact of COVID-19 on community college students*. Austin, TX: The University of Texas at Austin, College of Education, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy, Program in Higher Education Leadership.


Recommended:

# Advance Work: Focus Group Package

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What you will receive</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Focus Group Discussion Guide</strong></td>
<td>All information relating to the expectations of focus groups are discussed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Student Consent Form</strong></td>
<td>Determine IR requirements for your institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Profile Sheets for Students</strong></td>
<td>Collect data on characteristics of participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Focus Group Report Template</strong></td>
<td>Synthesis Findings to prepare for Team Time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Focus Group Discussion Guide

Objectives for the Keeping Students on a Pathway Focus Group Discussion:

- To understand what motivates students to persist higher education
- To understand how students perceive the college’s effectiveness in meeting their needs
- To understand what the college needs to improve to help students succeed

Pick 2 *optional* objectives:

- To understand the importance financial services in helping students meet their goals
- To understand the importance of advising services in helping students meet their goals
- To understand the importance of basic needs support services in helping students meet their goals
- To understand the importance of mental health services in helping students meet their goals
- To understand the significance of relationships in student persistence and success
Focus Group Question Bank

Select 2 Topics

- Financial Support
- Advising Support
- Basic Student Needs
- Mental Health Services
- Students’ Relationships

What Student Voice Do You Need?

- Consult with Leadership Team
- Align study with institutional priorities
- Leverage existing data to better understand your students’ experience
- Anticipate your institution’s next steps
- What data will help you make progress on your Commitment to Action plan?
# Focus Group Question Bank

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Topic</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Educational Goals</strong></td>
<td>To understand what motivates students to persist in higher education</td>
<td>• What is your educational goal? (e.g., Upgrade skills for a promotion? Learn new skills to prepare for career change? Certification? Degree? Transfer?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Support Services</strong></td>
<td>To understand how students perceive the college’s effectiveness in meeting their needs</td>
<td>• In your opinion, what does the college do well? • What aspects of college cause you the most worry or stress?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Select Optional Topics</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Financial Support</strong></td>
<td>To understand the importance of financial services in helping students meet their goals</td>
<td>• Describe how the cost of college influences or affects your decision to stay in college. • Which financial support services offered by the college? (e.g., emergency aid as well as Pell and other grants) • What additional financial support services would college provide?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advising Support</strong></td>
<td>To understand the importance of advising services in helping students meet their goals</td>
<td>• What was the nature of your conversation with your advisor? (e.g., Academic counseling, Goal-setting, Discussion of academic or career challenges, Choosing a major or minor, Course selection) • Have you laid out a plan for your time at school? • Do you have a plan for earning your degree or transfer? • How would you describe advising at this college? Well, and what areas for improvement?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basic Needs Support</strong></td>
<td>To understand the importance of basic needs support services in helping students meet their goals</td>
<td>• What transportation do you rely on to come to campus? Are you using convenient, reliable, affordable transportation when you need it? • Do any of you rely on childcare services either at or elsewhere to attend classes? Can you share an example of a supporting service (cost, location, hours, other factors) that made it difficult or impossible to attend classes at this college? • Do the college provide or coordinate services for students who need food or housing? How do you know availability of those services?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mental Health Services</strong></td>
<td>To understand the importance of mental health services in helping students meet their goals</td>
<td>• Do you have reliable computer/internet access? Does the college provide computers or hotspots to students? • COVID-19 has helped many people realize that mental health and wellness are critically important: Are you aware of any mental health services or resources that your college makes available to help students? Do you know how to find and access these services if you wanted to? • In your opinion, does student mental health and wellness seem to matter to your teachers, advisors, and college leadership? How do you know? Based on what you’ve seen and heard, does your college seem to adequately find and engage the right resources to help address the mental and emotional health needs of your campus? What, if anything, sticks out as going really well? • Do you have any ideas of mental health and wellness supports or services that you wish were available, but to your knowledge, are not currently available at your school?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Students' Relationships</strong></td>
<td>To understand the significance of relationships in student persistence and success</td>
<td>• When you think about your experience at this college outside of the time you spend in class, are there particular relationships you have developed here that come to mind? • Who are these relationships with? (e.g., Other students? Instructors? Counselors? Academic advisors? Other staff members? Others?) • How important would you say these relationships are to your success here? Which ones in particular? How are they important to you? Describe what impact they have on your success here (positive and negative).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Required Topic</strong></td>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Retention</strong></td>
<td>To understand what the college needs to improve to help students succeed</td>
<td>• In your opinion, what is one thing you would improve at the college to help students succeed? • What is the single most important factor that keeps you coming back to this college? • What advice would you give to a friend or sibling planning to attend this college on how to be successful at this college?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Focus Group Discussion Guide

Selecting Students for the Focus Group

Cadre 1+ and Cadre 1 Colleges
- Each college should recruit **two unique populations**: 1) academic and 2) continuing education (may include AEL as appropriate).
- Representative of **diversity** of student population (age, race, program of study)
- Conduct **two focus** groups (7-12 students), one for each group of students.
- Synthesize what you heard from these students on the Focus Group Report.

Cadre 2 and Cadre 3 Colleges
- Each college should recruit a **diverse group** of students (academic, continuing education, AEL, dual credit, etc.).
- Conduct **one or more** focus groups (7-12 students).
- Synthesize what you heard from these students on the Focus Group Report.
Things to Consider

Logistical Planning
- Consult with IR to inform them of this study and seek guidance
- Student Recruitment
- Room Reservations
- Will you want to record the focus group?
- Who will serve as facilitator? notetaker?
- Who will write up the report?
Student Forms

Student Consent Form

- Consent form required for all students
  - college or TSC
- Inform your IR of this study
- Individual sheets collected for college’s records (not turned into TSC)
- Student receive copy of blank form for their records
Student Forms

Profile Sheet for Students

- Individual sheets will be collected; not turned into TSC
- Report aggregate data
- Regarding who participated (sub-pops)
- Include in Focus Group Report
Analyzing the Data

Focus Group Report Template

• Customize template for your college (name/logo)
• Aggregate student data
• Select the 2 topics (and remove the rest)
• Synthesize data
• Select quotes that best represent student experience
• Pathways lead to share final report with CEO, attendees of Pathways Institute, and Pathways coach

Don’t Forget to Submit to TSC’s Document Center by 3/30
Focus Group Discussion Guide

Timeline for Advance Work

February 4: Pathways Leads Orientation Webinar
February 7: Pathways Leads receive advance work package, including: (a) Focus Group Guide, (b) Focus Group Question Bank, (c) Consent Form for Students, (d) Profile Sheet for Students, and (e) Focus Group Report Template.
February 7 - March 25: Recruit students, conduct focus groups, and synthesize what you learned from the students in the focus groups on the Focus Group report Template.
March 30: LAST DAY TO SUBMIT FOCUS GROUP REPORT. Upload Focus Group Report Template to the Document Center on the Texas Pathways Institute #5 event page.
## Timeline for Advance Work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orientation Webinar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receive Advance Packet &amp; Select Topics and Logistical Planning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recruit Students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct Focus Groups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthesis Student Responses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upload Focus Group Report to Document Center</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Texas Success Center**
Feedback & Questions?
Hold the Dates

Event Logistics
• February 7: Registration opens
• March 25: Registration closes
• March 30: Pathways Leads receive Team Time documents; 1-1 meetings scheduled with your coach

RFP for Institute Sessions
• February 7: Call for proposals
• March 4: Proposal submission deadline
• March 10: Selections announced
• March 30: Deadline to submit session materials to share

Focus Group
• February 2: Pathways Leads Orientation Webinar (recording on event page)
• February 7: Pathways Leads Receive Advance Work
• March 30: Deadline to Submit Focus Group Report
Thank You!

Please reach out to us with questions
Christine Bailie
cbailie@tacc.org