

Governors State University

Student Affairs and Enrollment Management: Reaching Vision 2020

Focus Area: Dual Degree Program and Transfer Initiatives

Leader(s): Jessica Specht

Implementation Year: 2018-2019

Goal #2: Support the establishment and implementation of the Center for the Junior Year to provide an exemplary physical and virtual resource center for native and transfer students to come together for information, support and guidance as they transition to their chosen major.

Objective 1:	<u>Co-host events/programs to integrate transfer juniors with native juniors</u>
Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Incorporate MSI and the Center for Junior Year in the planning of career and scholarship symposiums ➤ Collaborate with CJY during welcome week that celebrates the junior year (introduce students to CJY services, DDP STAs and CJY Peer Mentors) ➤ Assess DDP student interest in student organizations via the DDP Student Profile, then connect student to appropriate GSU club upon transfer
Desired Outcomes and Achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Established co-hosting of events/programs ➤ Expand student knowledge of services provided by CJY staff
Achieved Outcome and Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In addition to extending an invitation to MSI students to participate in our annual scholarship and career symposium: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MSI grant provided funding for guest speaker, Brenda High “Scholarship Mom” for scholarship symposium ○ Sean Smith, Coordinator of MSI, assisted in providing individual resume critiques during career symposium ○ MSI students represented approximately 45% of students in attendance at both events ▪ Increased collaboration and intentional communication between DDP and CJY: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CJY hosted an information session on graduate school and study abroad funding during scholarship symposium ○ DDP STAs worked with CJY peer mentors to host “Find My Classes” table during Welcome Weed in both fall and spring semesters
Analysis of Results	The Male Success Initiative and DDP joined forces to host Welcome Back Socials at the beginning of both fall and spring semesters, as well as DDP’s annual Scholarship and Career Symposiums. Student participation increased an average of 28% for the year’s events. Having additional financial resources for a guest speaker was a great way to attract new student involvement in annual programs.

	It has also been helpful to DDP’s Student Transition Assistants, to mix and mingle with CJY’s peer mentors. The two groups can learn a lot from each other’s experiences when working with students, and help build a network of resources when directing new students to the services the CJY provides.
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Objective 2:	<u>Mitigate transfer shock by assisting with the implementation of early intervention strategies.</u>
Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Capture student interest in CJY career advising via DDP Student Profile, and provide CJY with contact information for follow-up ➤ Receive semi-annual reports of DDP students with kudos and early alert flags in Starfish; incorporating CJY Student Success Coaches (Peer Mentors) into follow up ➤ Assess students’ involvement in academic resources (such as tutoring, Disability Services, TRiO, counseling center, Library/Writing Center, learning communities, etc.) at the community college in order to connect students to appropriate GSU equivalent upon transfer
Desired Outcomes and Achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increase the number of students who transfer to GSU through DDP ➤ Increase in number of GSU juniors who return for senior year
Achieved Outcome and Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Captured new DDP students’ interest in career and major exploration resources via the DDP Student Profile (voluntarily completed by student at time of enrollment.) Students were able to acknowledge their interest in speaking with a CJY Peer Mentor; contact information for those students were then forwarded to the Director of CJY for follow up (files stored on shared drive.) ▪ Students’ use of community college resources was also captured on DDP Student Profile, and forwarded to CJY for internal (data) use and follow up.
Analysis of Results	From the feedback we’ve received, students interested in speaking with a CJY peer mentor were contacted and receptive to the peer connection. How the CJY may have further utilized the data from the DDP Student Profile is unknown. However, collaborations with CJY to be discussed in Objective 3 have proved most fruitful for DDP enrollment.

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Objective 3:	<u>Assist with promoting the GSU Center for the Junior Year and its services.</u>
Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Include CJY in DDP Induction ceremonies and Online Induction ➤ Collaborate with CJY to host information sessions at the community colleges (Daley, MVCC, PSC, JJC, SSC specifically), and bring a DDP alum from that respective campus ➤ Include CJY promotional materials at table visits ➤ Assess students' confidence in their choice of major/field of study via the DDP Student Profile; refer those who may need additional guidance for unique occupational interests to CJY staff
Desired Outcomes and Achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increase in number of students who utilize or are familiar with CJY services
Achieved Outcome and Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CJY provided short info session on department's services during fall induction ▪ CJY Peer Mentor created and facilitated "GSU Land" group activity during spring induction; student gained a better understanding of common obstacles and resources while transfer to the university setting. ▪ Collaborated with CJY to host information sessions at the community colleges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Prairie State: Hosted by CJY Peer Mentor/DDP student/PSC alum ○ Daley College: Hosted by CJY Director (on behalf of Honors Program as well, CCC PTK students specifically invited) ○ Joliet Junior College: Hosted CJY Director and CJY Peer Mentor/DDP student ▪ As mentioned in Objective 2, captured new DDP students' interest in career and major exploration resources via the DDP Student Profile. ▪ CJY brochures are always available as DDP table take-and-gos.
Analysis of Results	<p>Regarding the information sessions at the community college, the events drew in a strong crowd of 20, 18, and 8 participants respectively. New DDP enrollment was captured at each event, and there were several students interested in being further contacted by CJY. The sessions will continue; potentially in the summer, but most definitely in the fall with the intention of increasing the amount of sessions and campus locations. It has also be encouraging that the CJY's lead Peer Mentor is also a DDP student; the two programs communicate when there are open student positions so that we continue to have a variety of students who are familiar and involved in the multiple initiatives.</p>