

First Year College 2006-07 Impact Report: Summary

FYC Mission

The mission of the First Year College at NC State University is to guide students through a structured process for transition to the University and selection of a major. This is accomplished through one-on-one advising, teaching and experiential learning, emphasizing theoretical and practical methods of inquiry, guided reflection, assessment and analysis. Through this process students will gain the foundation for acquiring the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to become self-reliant and productive citizens of an increasingly diverse community.

Impact Summary

Overall, the program has met its goals of supporting academic, personal, and career growth for students.

- FYC students continue to perform well academically. The 2005-06 cohort had equal or better academic results on most measures compared to the matched University cohort, a trend also clearly demonstrated in the 10-year report. Over half (52%) of enrolled students in the 2006-07 cohort earned a TGPA \geq 3.0 by the end of spring 2007 and the cohort had an average of 31.7 THP. Nearly 31% earned Dean's List honors for spring 2007.
- FYC has supported and encouraged student involvement and engagement through FYC Village programming, FYC sponsored organizations, the USC curriculum, and advising. Students in the Village have had higher levels of engagement and involvement. Student surveys (course evaluation, graduating FYC senior survey) indicate an understanding that involvement is important.
- Students indicate that their major and career exploration needs are being met, and for the 2006-07 cohort, 90.6% indicated that they had decided on a college or major by the end of the spring semester. Twenty-two percent (22%) of the enrolled students for the 2006-07 class have matriculated as of 5/25/07. For the 2005-06 cohort, 53% had matriculated by mid-November of their third semester.

Assessment Issues

- Response rates for the new on-line UEI were disappointing, just 60% for USC 102A (spring 2007), compared to over 80% on the paper and pencil forms done in the classroom in the fall. Recommend that instructors schedule time in FYC Computer Lab for completion of USC on-line course evaluations in order to increase response rate. Also, review and consider UPAs recommendations on methods to increase participation.

Assessment focus for 2007-08

- Develop goals for recruitment, publicity, and admissions efforts. FYC has increased attention to these activities to insure that the program continues to attract a diverse population of exploratory students. Continue to collect and disseminate data on FYC student performance by college after matriculation.
- Review FYC Village living-learning goals related to engagement, involvement, and resource use and incorporate into FYC assessment plan as appropriate. Programming efforts to support these goals include service-learning programs (new for 2007), leadership certificate (new for 2007), Faculty Fellows, the Resident Mentor program, and the linked FYI courses.
- Incorporate focus groups in assessment plan in an effort to gather more in-depth data on student involvement and engagement. Continue to look for ways to use forum data to understand student interests, learning, and involvement.
- Continue focus on student learning outcomes related to values and diversity. Encourage use of forum series and RM programs to expose students to varying perspectives.

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- Follow matriculation patterns closely, with particular focus on how matriculation policy changes impact students.

2006-07 Assessment Team

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