

FYE Task Force #3 Recommendations

DRAFT

Finding Your Home at CSM

In the final group meeting the phrase “finding your home at CSM” came up in our discussion of recommendations. That phrase seemed to capture the essence of what these recommendations seek to accomplish; helping students to feel at ease and connected to the campus. Our student representative expressed early on that whenever she had a question she first went to the International Students Office. That was her “home” and where she felt safe and confident that she could ask questions and get the help she needed. We believe that a similar place is needed on campus for the population of FYE students.

Task Force #3 is making the following recommendations:

- Offer an FYE course targeted towards first time students coming out of high school
 - *PILOT IN AY 15-16- Offer sections of COUN 111 incorporating Mindset 4.0 principles and including intrusive supports that last throughout the first semester. Scheduled to be accessible to students enrolled in other common first year classes such as Math, English
- Attach student, peer mentors to FYE courses to provide non-academic supplemental support
- Weave the Mindset 4.0 philosophy through the FYE courses and support services
- Develop an FYE community of practice of faculty and staff who work closely with the population
- Develop appropriate messaging & marketing that is targeted and distributed at critical times
- Assessment and Data Collection - Using focus groups and surveys to determine the needs of FYE students
- Events – Celebrate milestones and achievements, Host Career Expo and Majors Fair
- FYE needs a home – space and coordination of activities as well as a place where first year students know they can go to ask questions
- Forge an FYE learning community – for students who do not go into other learning communities such as Puente or Umoja, to give them a community on campus as well
- Make FYE mandatory – offer an out for students in other supported communities
- Provide the social support services that can mean the difference between a student staying in school or dropping out – food pantry, housing information, etc.

As a philosophy we find Mindset 4.0 to be a helpful place to start in developing an inclusive campus identity that supports student achievement. It has the potential to bring together the entire campus (faculty, staff, & students) with a set of shared values.