Graduation Initiative
What is CSU Graduation Initiative 2025?

- An effort to **remove obstacles** from students path to obtain their baccalaureate degree.
- Goal is to increase retention and graduation rates for our 475,000 student across all 23 campuses.
- To meet the **workforce demands** for California, this initiative aims add 100,000 more baccalaureate degree-educated citizens over the next 10 years.
What is CSU Graduation Initiative 2025?

• Each CSU campus is assigned unique graduation goals to be reached by 2025
• Initiative divided into short-term and long-term efforts %
• Initial resource: $35m one-time allocation from state %
  – Cal Poly received $800k
• Long-term funding depends on ability to produce results in short term.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GI Target Metrics</th>
<th>Latest Cal Poly Rates*</th>
<th>Cal Poly 2025 Goals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FTF 4-year graduation rate</td>
<td>47.0%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FTF 6-year graduation rate</td>
<td>79.6%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTR 2-year graduation rate</td>
<td>36.1%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTR 4-year graduation rate</td>
<td>80.5%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URM graduation gap</td>
<td>10.4 points</td>
<td>0 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pell graduation gap</td>
<td>8.3 points</td>
<td>0 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* CSU Chancellor’s Office numbers
Cal Poly’s Short Term Plan: Strategy

- Build on activities, policies, and systems already in place &
- Implement changes and interventions that are sustainable over the long-term
- Target populations
  - ~3,900 first time freshmen from Fall 2013
  - ~750 transfer students from Fall 2015
Previous Work That Formed the Foundation

- Clear path to graduation (degree flowcharts, clean up prerequisites, robust degree audit, improve curriculum)
- Revised/new policies: AP/DQ, Change of Major, EAP %
- “Super Senior” Effort of 2010
- Block Scheduling
- PolyPlanner
- Assigning expected graduation term
- Following up with students who are dropping out
Cal Poly’s Short Term Plan: Actions

- Conducted intense advising efforts focused on seniors
- Used data from PolyPlanner and degree audit analysis to add course and WPE seats
- Increased micro-grants to students in need through Cal Poly CARES program
- Targeting possible summer courses for graduating seniors
Preliminary Outcomes Report

• Report submitted to CO on **February 24**

• Report’s goal
  – How did CSU campuses use $35 million of one-time % funding? %
  – Description of success metrics and major initiatives used %
  – Cal Poly projects to meet and possibly exceed CO’s yearly incremental goal of **2.7%** in four-year graduation rate for Fall 2013 FTF cohort
Cal Poly’s Long Term Plan

• Report due April 28 will include:
  – Update of original plan
  – Communication plan
  – Statement of college-level goals to support campus goals
  – List of success metrics: How will we know it’s working?

• Consulting internal stakeholders — students, staff, and faculty — before presenting it to president and provost
CSU’s Five Pillars of Student Success

• Academic preparation
• Enrollment management
• Financial aid
• Data infrastructure
• Administrative barriers
Long Term Plan: Draft Goals

• Integrate advising and academic support
  – Engage students at three to four critical touchpoints
  – Create seamless network of tutoring and other academic support services (Idea: Kennedy Library as one-stop shop
  – Develop specific measures to address achievement gaps
Long Term Plan: Draft Goals

• Cultivate data-driven decision-making
  – IT strategy (e.g., cloud-based computing)
  – Collaborative data analysis strategy - “data gurus”
  – Possible third-party CRM/Data Analytics systems to support “student life cycle” (e.g., advising, communication, scheduling)
Long Term Plan: Draft Goals

• **Remove barriers to graduation**
  – Administrative
    • Expand block scheduling
    • Review policies impacting degree progress
    • Expand micro-grants
  – Academic
    • Examine bottleneck, high-failure-rate courses
    • Hire more faculty to address bottlenecks and tenure density
    • Transition to course-based GWR
Long Term Plan: Draft Goals

• Build a more inclusive campus community
  – Improve campus climate
  – Develop two-year residential experience for all incoming freshmen
  – Improve growth mindset and sense of belonging among all students, but especially among 1st generation, transfer, and underrepresented students
Current Efforts at Cal Poly

• Assigning students their expected graduation term
• Reaching out to students who discontinue/stop out
• Partnership between Office of the Registrar and departments to evaluate possible curricular improvements
• Expanding block scheduling to the entire first year
Limitations for Graduation Rates

Enrolled + Discontinued + Dismissed + Graduated = Total

Dismissed (DQ) – From 10% down to 5% &

Discontinued – From 10-15% down to 6%

6-yr grad rate reached 82.6%; with attrition, max possible is 89% &
GI 2025: Primary Challenges

• **PolyPlanner** not fully utilized
• Capacity of **GWR/WPE, GE, and other courses** need to be better aligned with demand
• Improve **campus culture** to retain students
• Decision makers need to access and use **data** more effectively to make evidence-based decisions
GI 2025 Short Term Plan: Actions

- **Advising**: Campus-wide and college-wide
- **PolyPlanner**: Students update, departments use data for projected needs
- **GWR/WPE**: high need, increase capacity
- **Senior year**: offer needed courses as demonstrated through PolyPlanner
- **Micro-grants**: for students in need through Cal Poly CARES
• Integrating Advising and Academic Support
• Cultivate Data-Driven Decision Making
• Removing Barriers to Graduation
• Building a More Inclusive Campus Community
Thank you for your % partnership! %
Questions or comments? %