

Embedded Learning Communities: Empowering Student Achievement and Success

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Session Goals

1. Discover how embedding learning communities within a learning center supports student success.
2. Learn the LC Success model, theoretical framework, and the role academic coaching, mentoring, tutoring, and learning center involvement plays in supporting the success of LC students.
3. Acquire program guidelines for campus implementation.





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STUDENT ACADEMIC
SUCCESS SERVICES

Pirate Academic Success Center

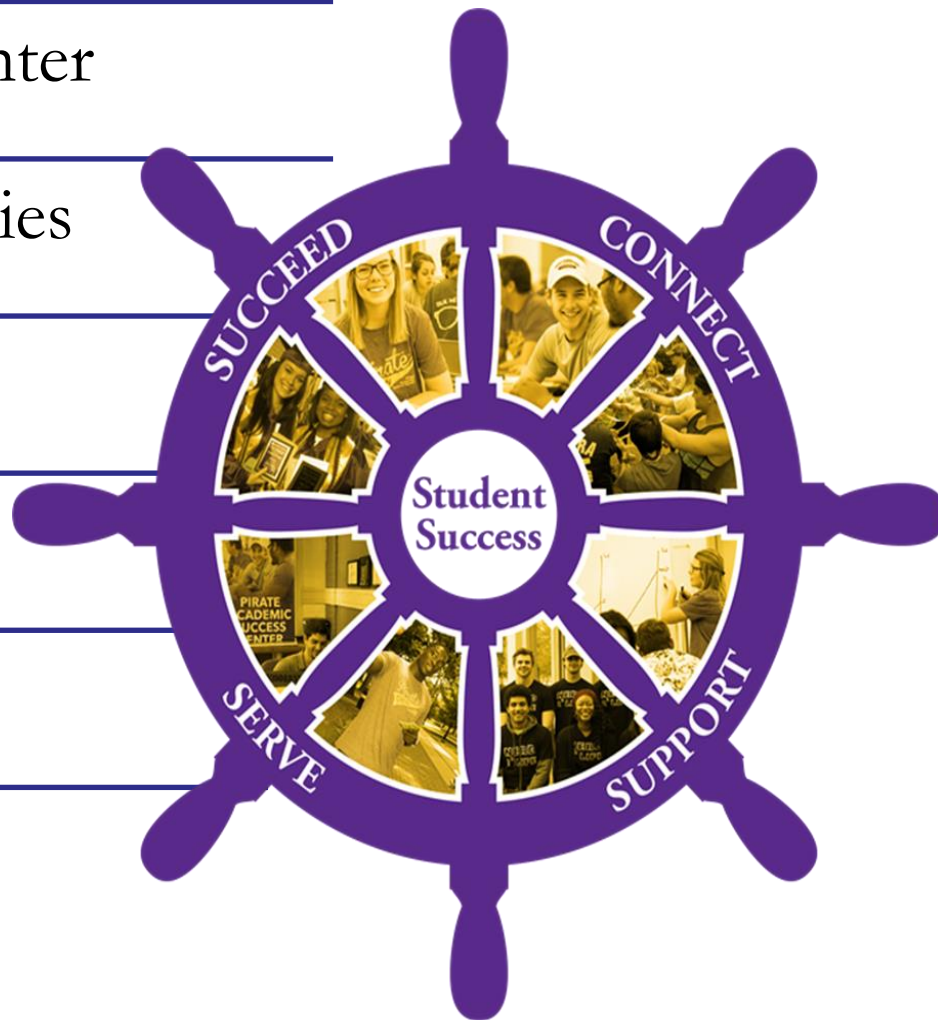
Success Learning Communities

TrACE Transfer Program

Gear Up NC

STEPP Program

Connect for Success



Pirate Academic Success Center



Tutoring
Services

Study Skills
Coaching

Skill Building
Workshops

Academic
Coaching

Study
Groups

What do students need to feel like they belong on your campus?

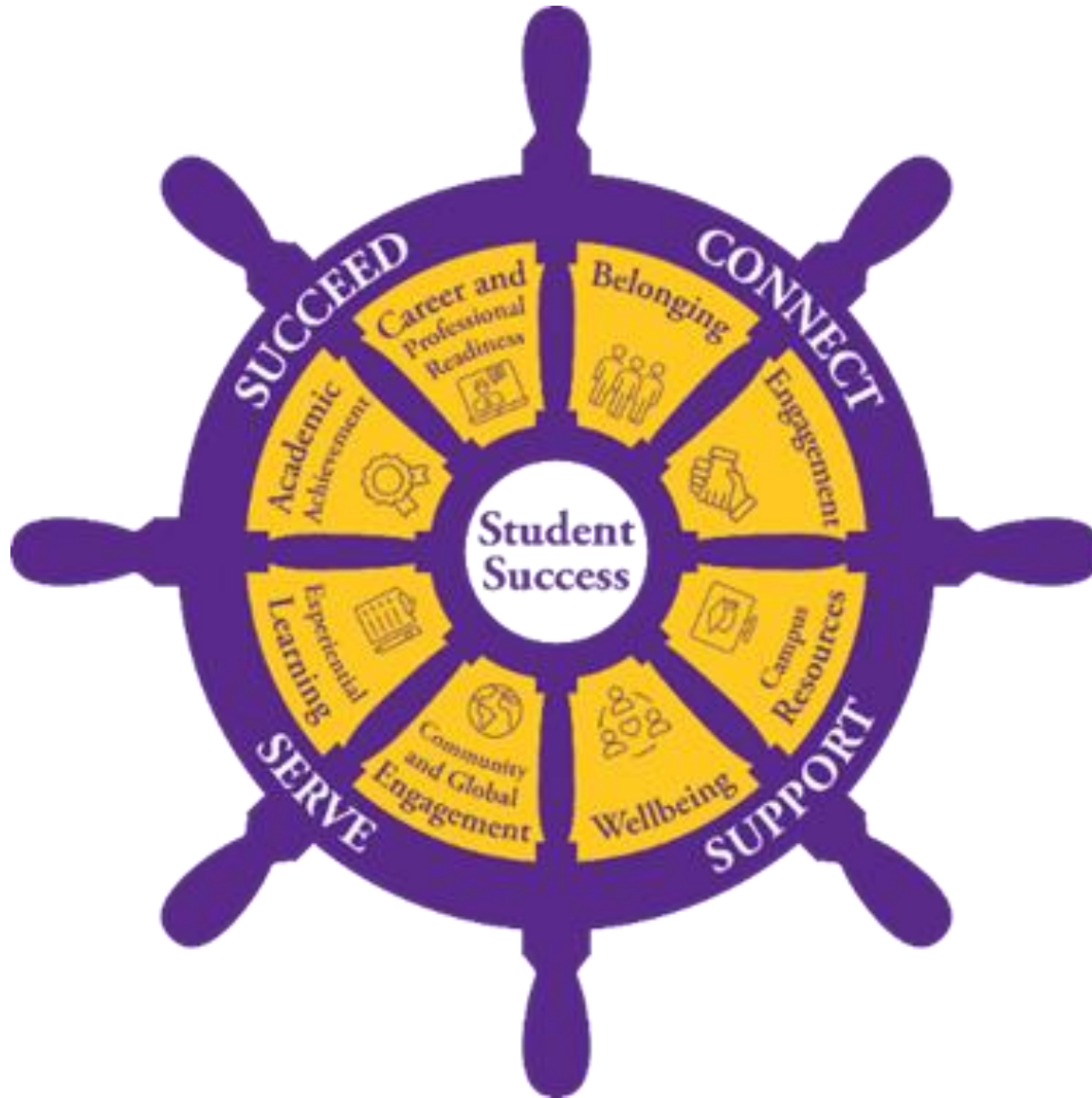


What we know about the first year in college

- All transitioning students are “at risk”
- Need connection and feel belonging to be successful
- Must learn self- advocacy skills
- Need to build healthy academic and social balance
- Confirm their major and career direction
- Establish positive peer relationships



Student Success Framework



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Theoretical Framework

Strayhorn (2012) Sense of Belonging Model

“Perceived social support on campus, a feeling or sensation of connectedness, the experience of mattering or feeling cared about, accepted, respected, valued by, and important to the group (e.g., campus community) or others on campus (e.g. faculty, peers)”

(Strayhorn, 2012, p.112).



Role of Sense of Belonging

*If you feel like you belong
you can succeed.*



What is a learning community?

- A group of students who share common academic goals and attitudes
- Share common coursework
- Meet regularly to collaborate on classwork, social activities or service

At ECU:

Living Learning Community—students who live together in the residence halls

Success Learning Community—non-residential community of students



LC Design



Academic Skills Building



- Study Skills Coaching
- Skills Workshops
- Individualized meetings
- Study Hall
- Freshmen Seminar
- Spring Academic Recovery



Peer Academic Coaching

- Peer Success Coaches are trained to meet one on one with students to discuss their academic progress and study skills Fall and Spring semesters.

Time Management

Organization

Graphic Organizer
Use

Learning Styles

Goal Setting

Textbook Reading
and Note Taking

Registration Help

Study Techniques/
Preparing for
Finals

GPA Calculations

Academic Coaching



“Mentoring is beneficial to mentees because we are able to share our own experiences and struggles with them and give them support and guidance needed to help them succeed.”

– Tyler Bayless-Edwards

“Mentoring is important for incoming freshmen and students on academic warning because we give them the tools necessary to thrive as a student. They also get to see that they have someone supporting them that’s on their team.”

– Arianna Safon

Tutoring & Study Groups

- Face to Face Appointments
- Digital Appointments
- Study Groups
- Test Reviews and Workshops

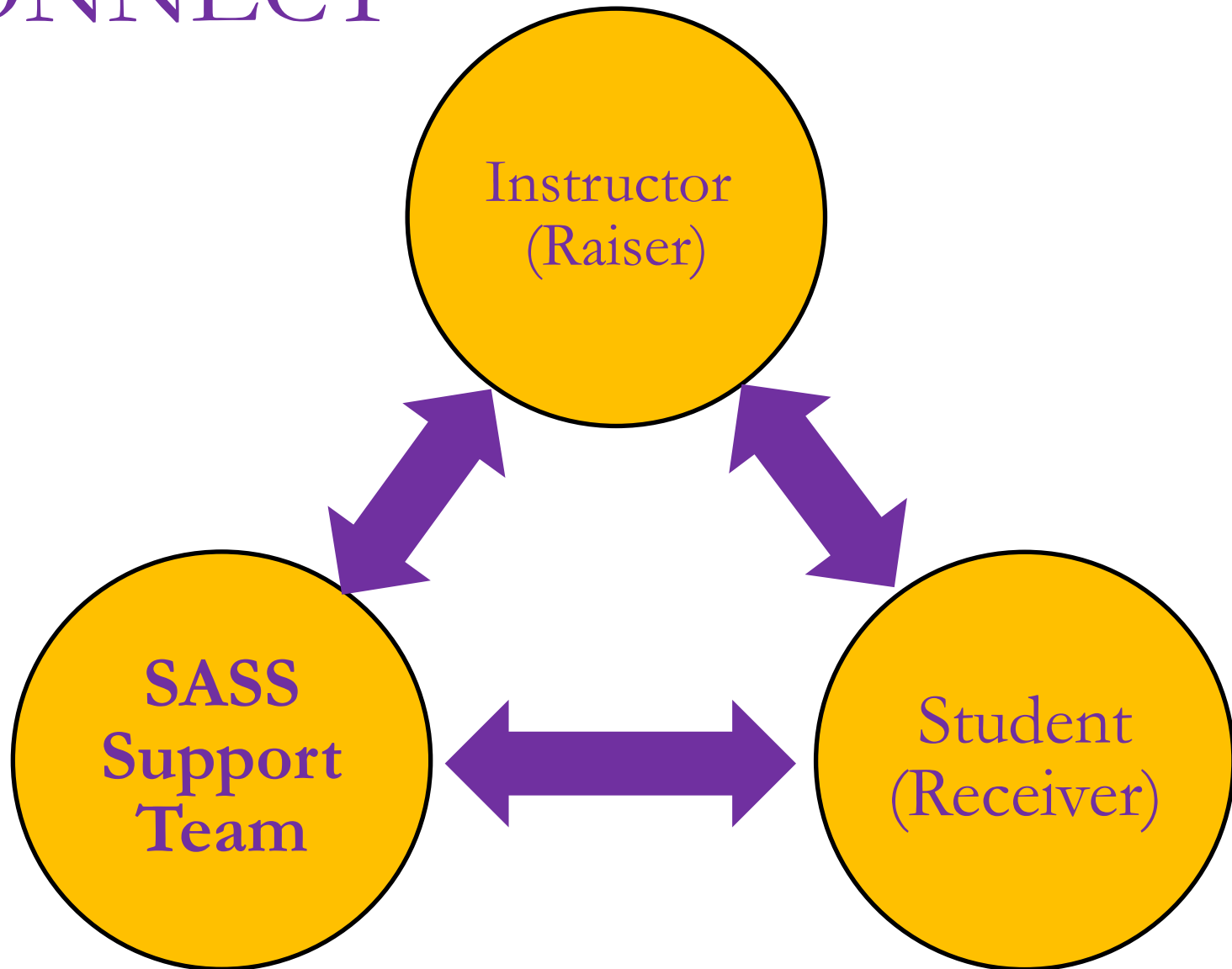


Common Coursework

- COAD 1000 Freshman Seminar, taught by SASS professional staff
- HLTH 1000
- KINE 1000



Early Alert Monitoring: ECU CONNECT



Accountability: Engagement Tracking

- Every visit is recorded using Accudemia
- Students maintain a record of activity each semester
- Activity records can be requested and reviewed



Service: Employment & Volunteer

- ALL students with federal work study are eligible to work at the PASC
- Job Duties:
 - Front Desk help
 - Workshop and study group check in
 - Technology support

Provides first employment opportunities

Relationships & Community

Develops leadership & workforce readiness skills

Establishes sense of belonging on campus

Amplifies student engagement

Team/ Common Mission



Supporting Special Populations

Gear Up NC	SASS Success cohort 1	SASS Success cohort 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 Specific high schools• UNC system Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• General Population• Any Incoming Freshman• Pell Grant• Males• Marginalized student groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Neurodiverse• HS supports• Learning differences

Supporting Special Populations

Gear Up NC Specific high schools	SASS Success LC General Population	SASS Success LC HS accommodations/supports
Common Coursework: COAD 1000, HLTH 1000, KINE 1000	Common Coursework: COAD 1000, HLTH 1000, KINE 1000	Common Coursework: COAD 1000, HLTH 1000, KINE 1000
Professional Staff coaching	Peer success coaching	Peer success coaching
2 course sections = 40/50	2 course sections=40/50	2 course sections=30/35
Programming Elements: Fall Semester Bootcamp, Saturday, 8/17 HS breakouts/welcome Registration Thanksgiving Finals Spring Semester ECU Excels Mindset for Academic Success Registration Coaching Study groups- Common courses Engagement events	Programming Elements: Fall Semester Bootcamp, Saturday, 8/17 Registration Thanksgiving Finals Spring Semester ECU Excels Mindset for Academic Success Registration Peer Coaching Study groups- Common courses Engagement events	Programming Elements: Fall Semester Bootcamp, Saturday, 8/17 Registration Thanksgiving Finals Spring Semester ECU Excels Mindset for Academic Success Registration Peer Coaching Study groups- Common courses Engagement events

Parent Connections



"YES, MOTHER, I TOLD YOU, I'M DOING FINE ON MY OWN AT COLLEGE.... HEY, COULD YOU LOG ON AND FIND MY SCHEDULE, ORDER MY BOOKS AND CALL ME WHEN IT'S TIME FOR CLASS?"

Success LC

Usage of Success Services

Student Group	# of Students using services	Fall Percentage of Service Usage
SUCCESS LC 2023 37 students	33 students	89%
SUCCESS LC 2022 58 students	58 students	100%



Gear Up NC

Usage of Success Services

Student Group	# of Students using services	Fall Percentage of Service Usage
GEAR UP 2023 ALL 68 students	53 students	78%
GEAR UP 2023 COAD 46 students	46 students	100%
GEAR UP 2023 NO COAD	7 students	10%
GEAR UP NC 2022 ALL 175 students	122 students	70%
GEAR UP 2022 COAD 46 students	43 students	94%
GEAR UP NC NO COAD 129 students	79 students	45%

Success LC

Academic Success Results

Fall 2022		
	# of Students	# of Visits
COAD Class	54	1,304
Success Coaching	54	547
Tutoring Services	50	349
Canvas Views	7	12
Study Skills Appointments	9	89
Events (PASC Birthday Party, Halloween, Registration Help, Thanksgiving, Pi Day)	20	49
Call Center Outreach	24	66
TrACE Support and Outreach	1	56
Study Hall	6	11
All LC Activity	54	2,483

Academic standings as of the end of Spring 2022 are as followed:

- **47/54** are in Good Academic Standing (87%)
- **6/54** are on Academic Probation (11.1%)
- **1/54** is on Academic Warning (1.9%).
- The average cumulative GPA across all Learning Community students is a 2.869
- Males 2.592 and Females 3.059

Recruitment

1. Admitted student events

2. Call Center

3. HS outreach

Peer Enrollment Coaches

- Proactively assisting enrolling students.
- Provides students with guidance to help navigate institutional hurdles.
- Decreases Summer and Spring melt rates.
- Provides personalized enrollment with phone calls, email follow-up, orientation involvement and virtual help sessions.
- Offer Learning Community opportunity.
- Provides orientation outreach.

Things to Consider for Implementation

Campus Wide

- Assessing campus needs
- Campus Partners
- Admissions
- Faculty
- Identifying a space that can house the operation
- Funding

Operations

- Students vs. Professional staff
- Curriculum support
- Identifying mentoring model
- Recruitment and training
- Tracking engagement



Thank you!

Copies of this presentation will be on the Student Academic Success Services website:

<https://academic-success.ecu.edu/success-research/>

For more information about:

Neurodiversity and college students go to

<https://libguides.ecu.edu/Neurodiversity>

Early Alert Systems

<https://libguides.ecu.edu/EarlyAlertWarningSystems>