Strategic Solutions for Student Success

EPI’s Multi-Point System to Help Your Institution Graduate More Students

The Educational Policy Institute provides multiple levels of support for institutions of higher education to improve student success, including professional development, institutional consulting, research and policy analysis, specialized data tools for student success, and additional support through our various free publications at www.educationalpolicy.org. This brochure briefly outlines what we do and how we can help.
Educational Policy Institute’s Student Retention is Serious Business. If you and your college want to learn more about what causes student attrition and what you can do about it, EPI is hosting three Retention Certification Workshops in 2014, the first in Tucson, Arizona this March 17-19, followed by Banff, Alberta, July 6-8 and San Antonio September 28-30. While there are no simple solutions for institutions, our experts will help navigate you and your team through the complexities of strategic decisionmaking and prepare a plan for student success that involves the entire staff and faculty. Student success is about engaging students through high-level academics, social integration, and great leadership at all levels. It is about the use of data to guide policy and classroom practice.


Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, Banff, AB, July 6-8, 2014

Join our experts in Tucson or Banff this coming year: Watson Scott Swail, President, Educational Policy Institute; Peter Dietsche, former Professor, University of Toronto; Kimberly Landis, VP, Educational Policy Institute and College Access Expert; Dolan Evanovich, VP Enrollment Management at The Ohio State University.

www.educationalpolicy.org/events
If you need help in putting together an institutional plan for student retention, EPI can help. We can guide you through the implementation of a campus retention audit and the development of a sophisticated retention plan.

Our retention consulting and support is customized for every institution and organization we work with by working closely with administrators, staff, and faculty to assess current institutional efforts to increase student retention and achievement. Our retention consulting provides support in planning, implementing, and monitoring the effects of new strategies and programs. To strengthen retention at your institution, EPI offers professional development, strategic planning, and both on-site and off-site support. Our solutions are customized for your particular needs and revolve around three major components:

- Perform an Institutional Audit
- Build a Meaningful Student Success Plan
- Monitor Student and Program Success

EPI President Dr. Watson Scott Swail is internationally reknowned for work on student retention. His 2003 Jossey-Bass book, Retaining Minority Students in Higher Education, and his Geometric Framework for Student Retention, are used around the world to help institutions plan for and orchestrate strategic change focused on student success. He also edited and co-wrote the 2012 Teachers College Press book, Finding Superman: Debating the Future of Public Education in America. Dr. Swail has a unique perspective on what it takes to drive institutional change, and his data-driven and research-based methodology can bring together all stakeholders at the college and university level. Dr. Swail is available for campus consulting and speaking. Please contact our office at info@educationalpolicy.org for additional information.

Retention 2014 is now accepting proposals for breakout presentations. Proposals may be submitted by individuals, school districts, institutions, organizations, foundations, associations, and education service providers. For 2014, we are encouraging proposals in the four following themes: Pre-College/Secondary Education, Two-Year, Four-Year, Career Colleges, Graduate Programs, and Online Education. Register today at www.educationalpolicy.org.
The Importance of Student Retention and Success

Each year, over one million freshman students leave higher education without a credential, many of whom will never return to a college or university campus. While this may signal the end of a dream for some students, it similarly signals a lost opportunity for institutions of higher education. Collectively, institutions in the United States and Canada forfeit over $1 billion each year in lost revenue due to student dropout and departure, and the average institution loses over $4 million each academic year. The Educational Policy Institute understands the importance of student success. Our organization has the expertise and tools to help your institution improve student success, from initial definition of the retention challenges to strategic planning and the incorporation of policies, strategies, and interventions aimed at increasing retention and graduation rates.

What Professionals Say About EPI Retention Events

“The conference was EXCELLENT. I came away with a great deal of new knowledge and I’m now anxious to get going on things! Thanks for a great learning and sharing experience!”
-Bow Valley College, Calgary, AB

“There are few—perhaps no other—organizations that are bringing the intellectual capital to the table regarding college access, readiness, and retention that you and your team are providing.”
-Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), San Diego, CA

“Thank you very much for the Retention 101 conference this Monday and Tuesday at SLU. Your presentation offered much food for thought – and action! I appreciate the hands-on approach you and Scott used. Without question, this is the best retention conference I’ve been to.”
-Arkansas Tech University – Ozark Campus

“Whether you are just beginning to develop a student success program or have already developed a draft proposal, this conference will meet your goals and move you toward success.”
-North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC

“A fabulous opportunity to learn, interact, and plan.”
-University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

“This program causes you to think about what you are doing related to retention and immediately gives you new ideas of that you might try. It forces you to think about a framework for retention.”
-Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

“The retention conference was wonderfully helpful to our college. We were able to share ideas with other institutions and learn from the expert presenters. A conference well worth your time!”
-Portland Community College, Portland, OR

“Very comprehensive – Provided theoretical foundation, practical applications and valuable strategies.”
-Elgin Community College, Elgin, IL

“I just want to take this opportunity and thank you & all the staff. It was my first conference to attend on behalf of our college and I enjoyed the breakout sessions tremendously. My colleague and I haven’t stopped talking about the sessions yet! We gathered so many ideas and made new friends that will allow us to improve our programs further & assist our students even more.”
-School of Business, SAIT Polytechnic, Calgary, AB

Other Resources from the Educational Policy Institute

www.educationalpolicy.org