Building Bridges for Student Success: A Sourcebook for Colleges and Universities

The *Sourcebook* is an electronic book designed to provide higher education practitioners and researchers with resources for practices and factors which influence student success. The purpose of the book is to enhance the bridges institutions can build between activities, functions, and programs which optimize student success. While the chapters cover a broad range of topics in academic and co-curricular learning, they also maintain a core focus on academic and student affairs management to include institutional research, learning outcomes assessment and institutional effectiveness—all functions closely related to student success and its measurement.

Members of CSRDE can purchase the *Sourcebook* and/or its parts for a nominal fee. They also receive retention and graduation data, and webinars, as well as free access to the Knowledgebase as a benefit of membership.

Dynamic Content

The *Sourcebook* was created as a dynamic document that will expand over time. Currently it contains over 30 chapters authored by over 60 higher education professionals, organized into an introduction, five distinct parts that each focus on different aspects of building student success, and concluding remarks.

The *Sourcebook* has five basic parts:

Part 1. Supporting Student Retention and Graduation through Building Effective Programs
Chapters in this part look at the aspects of the student experiences that reflect and define the context of the students' success in the broader definition of society. This part of the *Sourcebook* also looks at parts of our college processes and interventions that supplement the traditional classroom learning pertaining to critical thinking skills, academic knowledge, and discipline-based career skills.

Part 2. Supporting Student Retention and Graduation for Unique Groups and Needs
Studies conducted by many of the early researchers and thinkers about student success reflect a rich diversity of individuals with different demography, different goals, and different academic and social capabilities. These chapters discuss some of the unique student groups and subcultures that we have on many of our campuses and strategies that have been used to address their specific needs.

Part 3. Supporting Student Retention and Graduation through Assessment Tools and Techniques
These chapters provide information on assessment activities to inform student learning and success. They are organized into two subsections: "Learning Assessment" offers guidance on measures and assessment methods that offer insights on student learning, expectations of internal and external bodies for providing evidence of student learning, theories of how students learn, and organizations that act as resources for assessment activities. The "Noncognitive Assessment" section provides guidance on different noncognitive measures and methods and theirs uses in academic advising and for informing student learning and initiatives for increasing student success.

Part 4. Case Studies: Specific Campus-Based Efforts to Support Student Success
In this section, case studies are presented in which representatives from an institution describe their efforts and outcomes in dealing with a specific issue that addressed a unique student population's success. They are good starting points for addressing similar needs and opportunities at other institutions.

Part 5. Supporting Student Retention and Graduation through Faculty Engagement
These chapters highlight the role of faculty in engaging students in active learning. They are organized into two subsections: "The Role of Faculty" highlights the value added when bridges are built between faculty and staff. "Faculty Conversations" describes faculty-driven, innovative classroom-related ideas and describes faculty collaborations that are aligning classroom-related activities and course design with institutional, program, and individual goals.