2013-14 Program Review

Best Practices Form

Instructions: *Submit this form as a separate attachment with your completed Program Review.* Programs often do something particularly well; usually they have learned through assessment—sometimes trial and error—what solves a problem or makes their programs work so well. These are often called ***Best Practices*** and can help others. Please share the practices your program has found to be effective. The contact information lets others know whom to contact for more information. This part of Program Review is linked to the Student Success Strategic Goal: "Become an exemplary model of student success by developing and implementing best practices." For examples of Best Practices visit the Program Review Committee's website.

Program/Department: __Counseling_____ Name of Chair/Director/Manager: Sue Granger-Dickson

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Best Practice(s):

The Counseling Department's Educational Planning class, Student Development B1, is a focused and practical first semester course that provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an understanding of available programs and resources at BC, and, most importantly, to do the short and long term educational and career planning that is so critical to student success. Learning outcomes for STDV B1 include:

- Locate, navigate, and utilize educational and career resources
- Identify BC programs, policies, procedures and services
- Identify and evaluate educational and career goals and plan how to reach them
- Manage time and responsibilities and be able to assess and measure progress towards completion of education/career goals

While we have lost counselors to retirements and reassignments over the years and reduced sections of this course, we have one of the highest retention and success rates in both the college and in the state compared to similar educational planning courses. We accomplish this by the following:

- Even though the course only meets for 9 hours, we connect with our students in a meaningful ways by learning their names, majors and showing them we care about their dreams and goals.
- We assist them in translating those dreams into actionable educational pathways (comprehensive sep).
- The connections that we create in that course, last the entire time the student is at BC, because they come back and visit us for support.
- We encourage students to engage in the process of their own future.
- We teach them to become independent, yet are there as a resource.