Mesa Pathways

TINA RECALDE, DPT, MS, ATC, CSCS
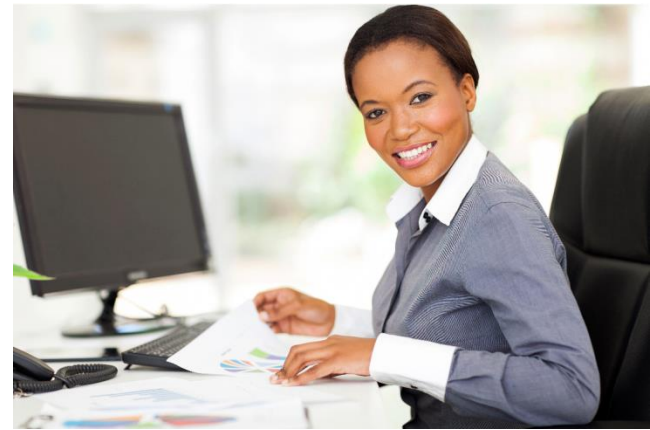
Guided Pathways Defined

"The Pathways Model is an **integrated institution-wide** approach to student success based on <u>intentionally designed, clear, coherent and structured educational experiences</u>."

Guided Pathways Defined

"Central to the pathways model are **clear, educationally coherent program maps** – which include <u>specific course sequences, progress milestones, and program learning outcomes</u>."

Guided Pathways Defined

"Students are helped from the start to explore academic and career options, choose a program of study, and develop a plan based on the program maps."

Key Elements of Guided Pathways

Programs that are fully mapped out and aligned with further education and career advancement while also providing structured or guided exploration for undecided students.

Redesigning and integrating basic skills/developmental education classes to accelerate students to college-level classes.

Proactive academic and career advising from the start through completion and/or transfer, with assigned point of contact at each stage.

Structured onboarding processes including improved placement tests and co-requisite instruction that provide students with clear, actionable, and usable information they need to get off to the right start in college.

Early alert systems aligned with interventions and resources to help students stay on the pathway, persist, and progress.

Instructional support and co-curricular activities aligned with classroom learning and career interests.

Four Pillars of Guided Pathways

Clarify the Path

Create Clear Curricular Pathways to Employment and Further Education

Enter the Path

Help Students Choose and Enter Their Pathway

Stay on the Path

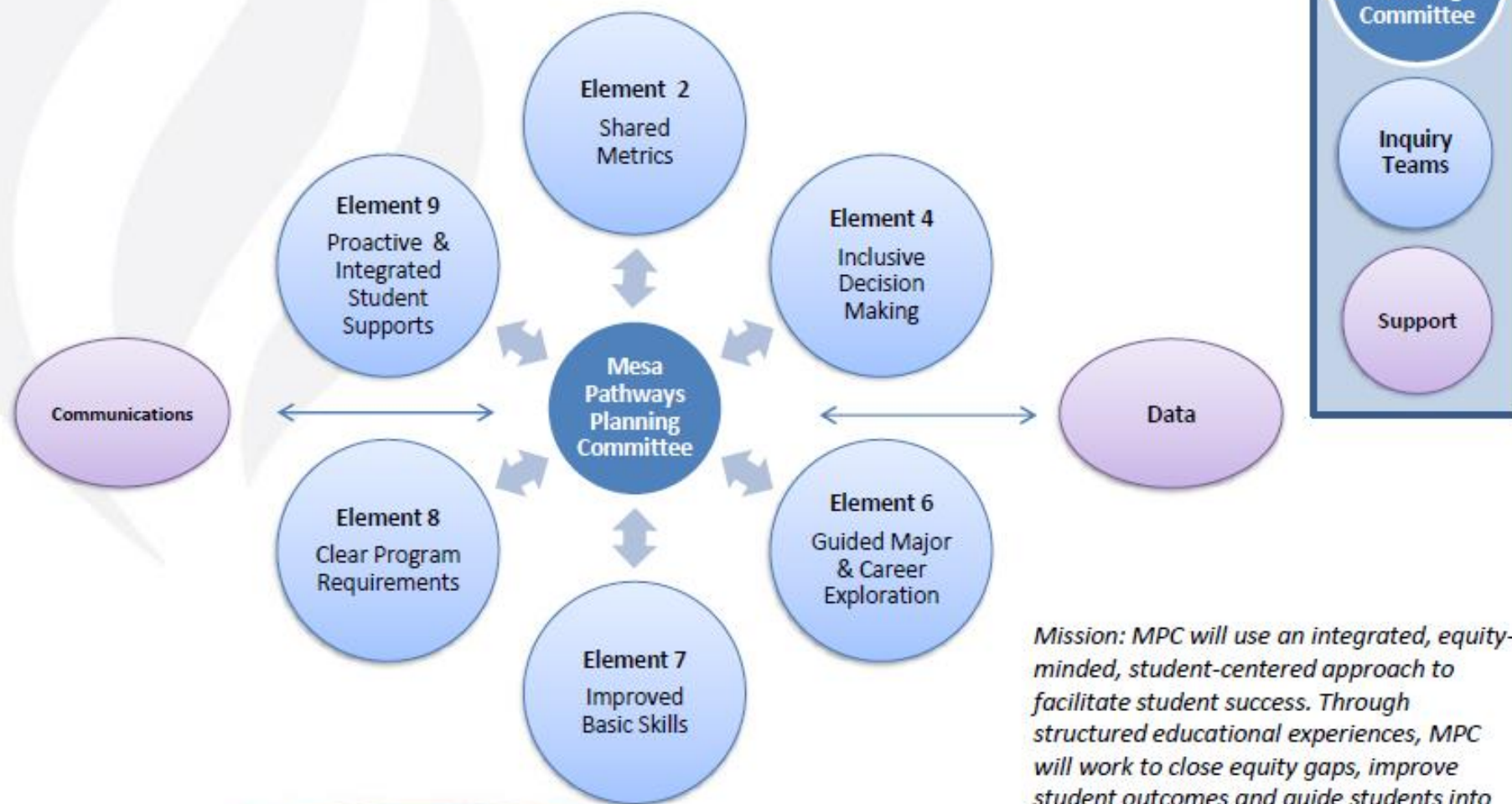Help Students Stay on Their Path

Ensure Learning

Follow Through, and Ensure that Better Practices are Providing Improved Student Results.

Mesa Pathways Committee (MPC)

PURPOSE:

MPC will use an integrated, equity-minded, student-centered approach to facilitate student success. Through structured educational experiences, MPC will work to close equity gaps, improve student outcomes and guide students into and through college to the completion of personal, academic and professional goals.

Mesa Pathways Committee Structure

Element 2
Shared Metrics

Element 9
Proactive & Integrated Student Supports

Element 4
Inclusive Decision Making

Communications

Mesa Pathways Planning Committee

Data

Element 8
Clear Program Requirements

Element 6
Guided Major & Career Exploration

Element 7
Improved Basic Skills

Mesa Pathways Planning Committee

Inquiry Teams

Support

Mission: MPC will use an integrated, equity-minded, student-centered approach to facilitate student success. Through structured educational experiences, MPC will work to close equity gaps, improve student outcomes and guide students into and through college to the completion of personal, academic and professional goals.

Implementing Guided Pathways:
Defining Roles with a Focus on Collaboration

Faculty & Staff

- Engage in all stages of Guided Pathways: inquiry, design, implementation and ongoing improvement.
- Work collectively toward common goals and commit to a structured, open process.
- Collaborate to design clearly structured, coherent academic program maps that: reflect curriculum aligned with university transfer programs and labor market needs; provide detailed course sequences and progress milestones; and represent the most efficient path for students to complete academic programs while maintaining the quality of these programs.
- Partner to guide, monitor and support students.
- Collaborate to help students build skills as they explore and progress through curricula and programs.

Students

- Share thoughts on how the institution as a whole can better meet student needs. Share obstacles, challenges and successes experienced in college.
- Engage in all stages of Guided Pathways: inquiry, design, implementation and ongoing improvement.
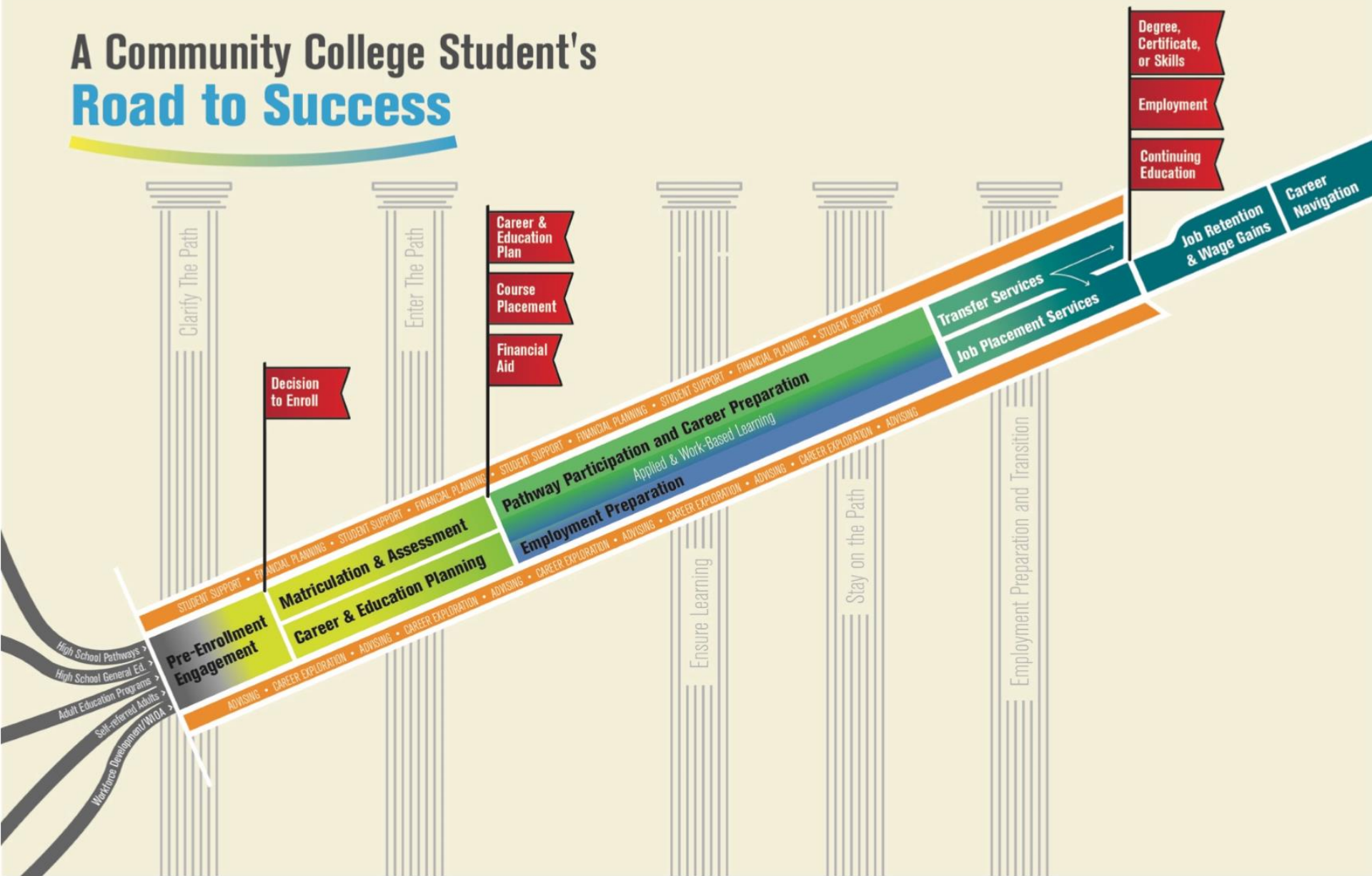
The Entire College

- Work collectively toward common goals and commit to a structured, open process.
- Think and talk about the unique planning and resource needs at the college.
- Participate in the self-assessment process.
- Solicit input from students, community members, alumni, employers and industry to assist in informing your Guided Pathways efforts.

Administrators

- Provide vision for college restructuring and initiative integration.
- Build a diverse steering team from all college constituencies, including administration, counseling and instructional faculty, staff and students from across the college.
- Offer support and guidance for collaboration and inclusive decision-making.
- Participate in all stages of Guided Pathways: inquiry, design and implementation.
- With faculty and staff, collaborate to design clearly structured, coherent academic program maps that: reflect curriculum aligned with university transfer programs and labor market needs; provide detailed course sequences and progress milestones; and represent the most efficient path for students to complete academic programs while maintaining the quality of these programs.
- Invest in professional development that supports reform efforts.
- Build organizational capability for ongoing innovation and improvement.

Institutional Researchers and Planners

- Support administrators, faculty and staff in inquiry by providing enrollment, persistence and retention data disaggregated by program, course, cohort and student equity categories.
- Provide support in understanding student throughput and identifying bottlenecks and loss points.
- Help steering team and others use data to examine barriers to student completion.
- Engage in all stages of Guided Pathways: inquiry, design, implementation and ongoing improvement.
- Help in making the case for Pathways through data.
- Assist with locating and interpreting data related to designing and implementing Pathways.
- Assist in providing students a voice through research activities such as surveys and focus groups.
- Provide leadership and support with the integrated planning that is required for Pathways.
- Conduct formative and summative evaluations to help inform and guide Pathways efforts, with a focus on continuous improvement.

A Community College Student's
Road to Success

Curriculum Institute Recommendations

Determine the role of general education (GE)

Program mapping, majors, and GE

Where to start with program mapping, categorizing majors, and GE
◦ Quantitative reasoning

Program clean-up

Stackable Certificates and Degrees

Group coursework into smaller sets leading to a recognized credential

Roadmaps show connections between chunks, and between education, training, and jobs

Aligned with industry-defined career pathways and explicit job classifications

Easily understood entry and exit points

May start with non-credit "bridge" or "prep" program leading into credit classes
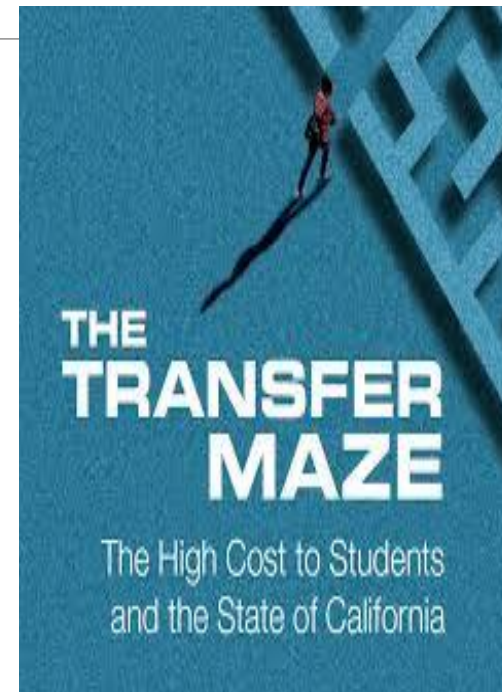
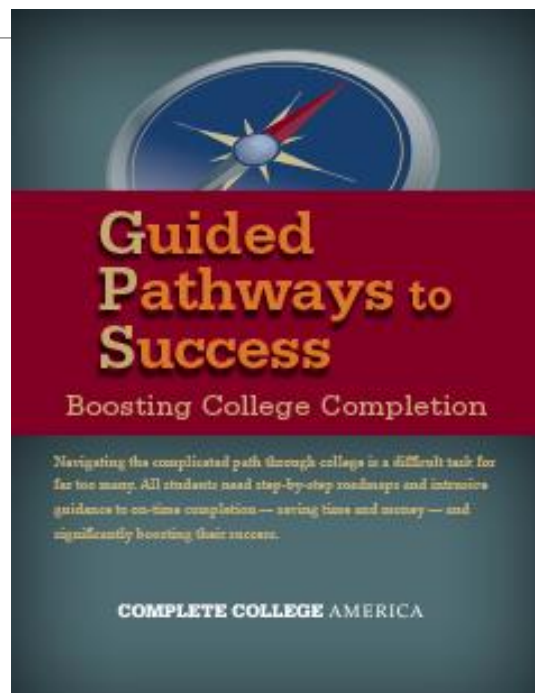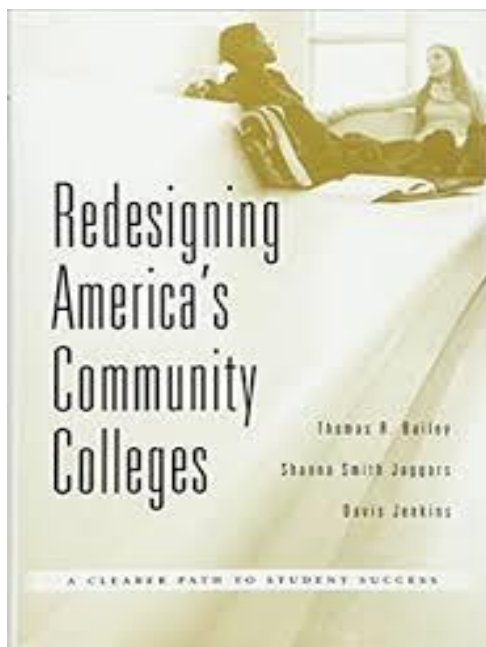May be linked to contextualized English, Math, and ESL

Health Information Pathway

Health Information Management
Baccalaureate Degree

Health Information
Technology
Certificate/Associate Degree

Medical Coding
Certificate

Resources

Reflections

"The higher education system was designed hundreds of years ago to educate the elite. We've democratized education, but haven't fundamentally changed the system to reflect that."

Rob Johnstone, PhD
Founder and President, National Center for Inquiry & Improvement