BEST PRACTICES IN EVALUATION OF MULTI-SITE LSAMP PROGRAMMING TO DIVERSIFY THE STEM TALENT POOL

DORINDA J. GALLANT, INTERIM DIRECTOR — GALLANT.32@OSU.EDU

ANNA C. BRADY, GRADUATE ASSISTANT — BRADY.1493@OSU.EDU

CREATE A CONCEPT MAP THAT INCLUDES THE VARIABLES AND FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE URM STUDENTS' RETENTION IN STEM

Common retention variables (White et al., 2008)

Type of variable	Example of variables
Personal	Interest, motivation, satisfaction, attitude, perceived changes/perceptions, personal goals, etc.
Academic	Pre-college academic achievement (GPA, SAT, ACT), college academic achievement (GPA, quality credit averages, Stanford Test of Academic Skills), multiple study skills, habits, class absenteeism, etc.
Institutional	Supportive climate, commitment, environment, quality and type of institution (public and private), faculty contact, cooperation among students, clear expectations, respect for diverse talent, student-faculty ratio, etc.
Cultural	Pre-college values, cultural identity, ethnic/cultural values, family support, etc.
Sociological	Social integration, support/climate, extracurricular activities, role model, living in university housing, etc.
Psychological	Alienation, feelings about college, self-esteem, self-beliefs, comfort, etc.
Economic	Financial aid, program cost, part-time employment, etc.
Background	Demography (ethnicity, gender, age, SES, parents' educational level, income), credit completion ratio, participation (related to student working), retention status (dismissal, dropout, or persist with/without probation), etc.
Others	Program involvement, organizational fit, etc.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What differences do you notice across institutions?
2. How can you accommodate for those differences when collecting and analyzing data?
3. How can you select valid and reliable quantitative measures?
4. How can you select qualitative measures?
5. How can you integrate these two types of measures together?
6. When would you collect data?
7. How would you choose that timeframe?
8. Who should collect the data?
9. How would you ensure they collect and store data appropriately?
10. How would you work to increase student and faculty participation?