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Faculty Forum: First-Year Student Success

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Academic Affairs Faculty Forum – First-Year Student Success Septemer 27, 2018

TRANSCRIPT

00:08 thank you all for for being here really 00:10 appreciate you taking the time this is 00:14 an important topic and I'm quite excited 00:17 to really do to to kind of lead a 00:19 discussion about it but I mean just say 00:21 a few things first about you know today 00:23 and and kind of rules of the road so 00:26 you may notice there's a camera over 00:28 there so we make a recording of this and 00:32 that is so that your colleagues and 00:34 peers can also have access to this 00:37 information so we'll make a recording of 00:39 today's presentation and that'll be 00:42 posted on a website the Provos website 00:46 under academic affairs faculty forum 00:47 well also they're actually already 00:49 posted the the PowerPoint slides and at 00:53 that website there's a space for you to 00:55 you know send your thoughts and ideas as 00:58 well as your colleagues so we recognize 01:00 that you know in the in a in an academic 01:04 calendar and they'll in the week there 01:07 is absolutely no time when everyone can 01:09 make it to to an event so we choose the 01:12

best we can but we do have this 01:13 tradition of making a recording if 01:16 you're really looking for something to 01:18 do the prior 15 faculty forms are all on 01:23 that website and you could binge right 01:26 through those 15 I looked at last night 01:30 I counted them I was a little surprised 01:32 but this has been the tradition to have 01:34 these for two to three times in the 01:36 academic year not you know to engage in 01:40 conversation about topics that are that 01:44 are important to us all and so today's 01:46 topic is about first-year student 01:48 success and what I want to do is start a 01:55 guy any good professor might well with a 01:58 Miss non-functioning ticker no I don't 02:04 think 02:05 oh I got it what I want to do is start 02:13 with defining my term so I'm gonna start 02:15 with some general things about our topic 02:18 today and and I think but I think it's 02:20 worthwhile to take some time to do this 02:22 so first year students exist what is it 02:25 that we're talking about so you know 02:27 what is a you know a successful 02:29 experience in the student's first year 02:31 at the University well of course it's a

02:33 it's a lot of things right it's 02:35 achieving the learning outcomes that we 02:37 want have they got the information from 02:39 the courses that they took did they 02:40 achieve the information and and the 02:44 skills that we hope they learn in that 02:46 course are they prepared to progress and 02:50 those two things of course overlap right 02:52 if you got the learning outcomes you 02:53 wanted from the course you should be 02:54 ready to progress but they're not the 02:56 same right because you're also we hope 02:59 students are learning about how to be 03:01 college students in their first year so 03:03 they're learning what they learn in that 03:04 course but they're we hopefully for a 03:06 successful experience they're also 03:08 learning about how to manage time and 03:10 how to study and how to engage in 03:12 material on how things are more general 03:14 skills that prepare them to succeed they 03:16 might pass all their courses but they 03:18 might be all the wrong courses that 03:19 prepare them to go on for and be 03:21 successful in the next year so we want 03:23 them to be prepared coming out of their 03:25

first year we all know that there's a 03:28 lot what happens is not all in the 03:32 classroom and again while at the 03:34 University of Maine just like most 03:36 universities we're diversifying in how 03:38 we think about who our students are and 03:40 who we want to attract to the university 03:42 you know led by the division of lifelong 03:44 learning 03:45 you know we're reaching out to working 03:47 adults but the reality is the line share 03:50 of our students our traditional age 03:52 they're coming here the majority of the 03:55 students who are in their first year 03:56 here are coming right out of high school 03:58 or maybe have ahead a year gap years 04:02 they call it many of them are coming 04:05 they're living away from home for the 04:07 first time they're living with strangers 04:09 people that they have not met before 04:12 they're interacting with people who are 04:14 guite different from them in turn 04:16 their background their cultural 04:18 experiences their their appearances 04:20 their being have you know levels of 04:24 freedom that they may not have had 04:25 previously they have exposed to a

04:27 variety of things that they might have 04:29 encountered previously in their life so 04:31 there's a whole lot that goes on you 04:34 know socially emotionally personally in 04:36 that first year and I think in that 04:38 success right that's part of success I 04:41 think you probably all can think of 04:43 students who were just aces academically 04:45 but couldn't manage to be a successful 04:49 college student and then I think at 04:52 least they're probably other pieces of 04:54 first-year student success but 04:56 satisfaction is one as well was it was 04:59 it a positive experience for the student 05:01 the students feel like yeah this is this 05:04 is I've been treated respectfully this 05:05 is a place that I want to be my 05:08 experience not every single moment of it 05:10 right but my experience in generally in 05:12 general was satisfying so that they want 05:13 to come back and continue their 05:15 education with us 05:16 now we're there's a whole host of ways 05:18 to measure all of these things and you 05:21 know so there's literature's on how to 05:24 measure there's reveled more or less 05:26

valid measures I'm going to talk about a 05:29 pretty gross measure which is retention 05:31 the retention is a proxy I would suggest 05:33 for all of these variables and probably 05:35 others that that I haven't thought of 05:38 but it's important right all of these 05:41 things relate to whether or not we the 05:44 student continues and persevere on 05:46 toward earning his or her degree so for 05:51 today's discussion I'm going to talk a 05:52 lot about first-year retention in 05:54 first-year retention is you know 05:57 basically the student who starts here in 05:59 the fall do they come back to continue 06:01 their education the following year 06:09 [Music] 06:14 so that's that's our that's our area of 06:17 discourse no I am going to take just a 06:20 minute to talk about why why should we 06:22 give a darn about first-year student 06:25 success in the first year retention I 06:28 worked here 06:30 how many saves in my 30 second year at 06:32 the University I've probably been in a 06:33 hundred or maybe a thousand 06:35 conversations about student success of 06:37 various types but I do think it's

06:40 worthwhile to just sort of reflect for a 06:42 minute about why is this important for 06:45 us to be concerned about and there are 06:47 some basic things I mean one is that 06:49 this is our mission right you know yes 06:52 we're we're a research university and 06:54 our mission is to produce new knowledge 06:55 or our mission includes producing new 06:57 knowledge and we're land-grant 06:58 University and our mission is to tie 06:59 with our state and to contribute to its 07:02 its economic and cultural and social 07:04 development those things are all called 07:06 true and part of our mission but we all 07:08 recognize that at the heart of our 07:10 mission is educating students and that's 07:12 important for the state of Maine it's 07:14 the reason why are still our biggest 07:17 donor to the University of Maine is the 07:18 legislature right there so covering 07:20 about 35% of our own our costs it's 07:24 because we serve the state in this way 07:26 but in a variety of ways for the primary 07:29 is by educating students so one could 07:30 question how well we're fulfilling our 07:33 mission if one out of four of those 07:35

students don't come back to continue 07:36 their degree you could raise some some 07:41 concerns about you know well are you 07:43 really doing what you said you would do 07:45 what what your mission is I think we 07:48 should care about it and be concerned 07:50 about because I think it also has to do 07:51 with our values 07:53 as an institution about who we are we 07:56 are not an elite institution that only 08:01 accepts students were at the top 08:03 academically or at the top 08:06 financially we are not a place that is 08:10 leave we don't define ourselves are our 08:13 strengths by all the people we exclude 08:15 and I say that with pride right I think 08:19 that's a good part of who we are now it 08:22 makes our job more challenging than an 08:24 institution that is elite that can take 08:26 only the very top students but it is 08:30 part of who we are what the university 08:32 main is about I'm going to share with 08:34 you some data in a minute that show that 08:39 you know who students who are so we all 08:43 know that there are students who are the 08:45 first and their families to come here to 08:47 pursue a college education

08:49 I know and their family has has obtained 08:51 that goal before and I'll show you some 08:53 data to show that with those students we 08:55 don't do as well fewer of them come back 08:56 for their second year fewer students who 08:59 are less well-off financially come back 09:02 for their second year that's important 09:06 because we're this is our values this is 09:08 what we say we're about we're an 09:10 institution that's about helping people 09:13 to change I have a bunch of siblings I 09:16 got two older brothers and they both can 09:18 make their careers in business and 09:19 they're all well we have conversations 09:24 about career and I know we're in the 09:27 business of changing people's lives and 09:29 that's that's a pretty great business to 09:31 be in taking people but you know one 09:33 sort of arranging and think about 09:37 themselves in the world and who they are 09:39 and their possibilities and we're in the 09:41 business of helping them chain 09:42 to achieve lighter things you know we 09:46 want to do that I think you should do 09:49 what every student who walks through the 09:50 door at least most of the students who 09:52

walk through the door it's important for 09:55 us to be concerned about this because of 09:57 our reputation and I mean that in a 09:59 small sense the local sense about how 10:02 we're thought about in the state of 10:04 Maine is are we thought about as a place 10:07 where students can come and you truly 10:09 can achieve and we provide opportunities 10:12 and we provide the supports they need to 10:14 succeed only perceived as you know we 10:17 were fighting a modest-sized research 10:19 university in the state of Maine we're 10:21 the big institution or we perceived as 10:23 an institution that big institution was 10:25 to come in to treat up environments I 10:28 mean that's very important it's also 10:31 important of our reputations large 10:34 nationally how well you do in terms of 10:37 keeping students at your institution is 10:40 a benchmark of your success it's in US 10:43 News and World Report it's in all these 10:44 other common measures of the 10:46 university's success so it's important 10:50 in that sense and even though it's 10:52 somewhat reticent I put it last because 10:56 it's not the driving reason but it is 10:58 part of our it should be part of our

10:59 thinking that we're more successful 11:01 keeping students living progressing to 11:04 degrees here at the University it's good 11:05 for our bottom line it helps us to be a 11:07 more successful institution I did some 11:10 quick calculating looking at just in the 11:14 first year if we were to change by 5% if 11:18 we were in improved by 5% the number of 11:22 students who we retain from year one to 11:24 year two just in that first year would 11:26 be about a million and a half dollars in 11:28 revenue to this institution which we can 11:31 turn and do good things if we sustain 11:34 that over time it's roughly around four 11:36 million dollars of revenue coming up 11:39 into the 11:40 institution it's something that we 11:42 should be my now what about retention at 11:49 the University of me why don't we look 11:52 like as I said I worked for a long time 11:54 done a lot of conversations and we have 11:56 looked at this thing in a variety of 11:59 ways including back when they put 12:02 together the blue sky strategic plan and 12:05 we had a very specific goal 12:08 that's quoting from the blue sky plan we 12:10

will improve annual student retention by 12:13 5 percent and I think most people know 12:16 here we evaluated the blue sky plan we 12:18 published a report about what we 12:21 achieved in that you so let me show you 12:24 the data you can tell me why we we 12:26 achieve what we said we would dark blue 12:28 is the blue sky years the report came 12:31 out in 2012 and these are the five 12:33 previous years not real exciting right I 12:39 know someone else can make more of that 12:41 but to me looks like we didn't move it 12:43 we didn't in fact there's some hints 12:46 that might be a little lower in these 12:47 these years I say with no pride at all 12:51 in the summer of 2014 we published the 12:54 Provost action plan for retention and 12:56 graduation we did not succeed in that 13:04 there now I'm show you some data that I 13:06 think can account for this deterioration 13:08 or maybe it's just statistical I well I 13:13 became a Dean here this year and I was 13:15 on a committee that a Provost at the 13:17 time put together called 13:18 the acronym was grit and it's graduation 13:22 retention and so we look back retired 10 13:27 years and I don't have a memorize going

13:28 to look like this we're pretty pretty 13:31 stable so if you're sitting there you 13:35 like you're thinking okay so what's 13:36 different now why why should in the 13:39 2018-19 academic year we focus on this 13:43 you know isn't it just this is just the 13:47 way it is and we should just kind of be 13:49 okay with that so I'm going to try to 13:51 convince you that no it's not okay one 13:54 and two we are in a better position now 13:57 to impact this and to make some change 14:00 so let me start a little bit about why 14:01 we should care to share about things 14:04 that you know the state of Maine this 14:06 has the oldest median age in the United 14:09 States think you know about the 14:11 demographics of our state the 14:13 traditional age students who come here 14:16 right out of high school few there are 14:18 fewer and fewer of them each year and 14:22 graduating from from Maine High School's 14:24 there are fewer and fewer from New 14:25 England High School's if we're going to 14:28 fulfill our mission in serving the state 14:31 educating people we need in my opinion 14:33 to do a better job with those who get 14:35

here to walk away from 25 percent after 14:38 year one isn't a successful formula for 14:41 us moving forward companies need 14:44 educated workforces that's the Bangor 14:48 Daily I'm sure you see these headlines 14:51 frequently the the system put out some 14:55 information by just one area about 14:56 nursing and the need for nurses newly 15:00 trained nurses is tremendous and it's 15:02 gonna get stronger as the baby boomers 15:05 go into retirement if you've seen the 15:08 Dean Humphrey give us talk about the 15:10 need for engineering that's the same 15:12 it's the same thing we need to produce 15:14 more educated people and it's not just 15:15 in these narrow professions when 15:17 companies by and large are saying we 15:20 need an educated workforce we can teach 15:22 them to do this specifically but we need 15:25 people who can think critically who can 15:27 write communicating who can work on 15:29 teams and work creatively so we're going 15:32 to fulfill our mission we need to be 15:34doing better in terms of this 15:37 so right here that's my vision in the 15:40 world as I said I've been in a lot of 15:44 these conversations and invariably

15:47 someone will say something like well the 15:50 students just aren't ready they're not 15:52 ready and and all you get a varying them 15:54 you know when I'm in college we all you 15:58 know read Shakespeare every night and 16:00 did calculus problems with practice just 16:02 to loosen our kids now they don't do 16:05 that anymore they're not prepared to 16:08 succeed I'm going to show you some data 16:11 right now in a minute to show you that 16:13 yeah how well-prepared a student is is 16:15 an important factor and whether or not 16:17 there's so there's no question about it 16:19 what we are doing is looking at the 16:22 student body that makes up the 16:24 University of Maine and we have taken 16:27 some steps to kind of shift that body so 16:32 that the students are in general better 16:35 prepared I'll show you some evidence of 16:38 that we're part of the University of 16:41 Maine systems one University concept in 16:43 one way we're we're seeking to divide on 16:46 to define ourselves and have had some 16:48 successes say the University of Maine as 16:50 part of this system and we want to do 16:52 the University where students aspire to 16:54

get to and we want to work with the 16:56 other institutions the partners so these 16:58 students can get to us so so one thing 17:01 we did was we in 2016 we eliminated the 17:03 omron program long program was really 17:05 you know if you had involved with a very 17:08 good kind of second chance program for 17:12 students but its mission really matched 17:15 the mission of University of Maine at 17:16 Augusta better than ours and so we 17:19 stopped doing it we worked with the 17:21 University of Maine at Augusta to direct 17:23 students who have interests in that 17:25 program there in 2017 we eliminated 17:27 stopped admitted students into our 17:29 foundations program we used to take 17:31 about a hundred 17:32 times more than that students at no 17:34 program they were just gone foundation 17:36 they were just below our normal 17:38 acceptance rate or acceptance indicators 17:42 and we put them into the Foundation's 17:45 part we've also then through 17:46 partnerships worked with this year 17:49 university and in Augusta has about 35 17:51 of those students taking classes and we 17:54 create a pathway for them to get to the

17:56 University but they're not in our and 17:58 our seven so the result of that and it's 18:01 showing you that the last few years I 18:03 really you know I'll give you the middle 18:06 middle section of SAT and you know SATs 18:08 fly we all know that but it's a gross 18:10 measure of your preparedness each year 18:14 we've been able to bump up the level of 18:16 the twenty-fifth percentile on the SAT 18:18 so we're taking fewer students who are 18:21 in this lowest quartile of the 18:24 distribution moving the distribution up 18:26 up a little bit first years had no 18:29 impact on the upper end but this year I 18:31 was actually encouraged we even shifted 18:33 the upper end of the distribution so 18:36 we're we're working to get to they have 18:41 students who come here and we have the 18:44 capability to succeed and they mention 18:47 we're doing with partnerships with other 18:49 sister institutions in the system we're 18:52 also building better relationships with 18:53 the community college he's got Dunning 18:57 back there the school of engineering 18:58 technology has been a leader in that we 19:01 have pathways for students to start at 19:02

the Community College there's the school 19:05 of engineering technology or in their 19:07 degree in four years total if they can 19:10 they do what they need to do with the 19:11 Community College before they get here 19:13 this year we're a lot we're getting more 19:17 involved in this sort of early college 19:19 and we're doing some innovative programs 19:21 we're working with high schools to get 19:23 students University main credit but more 19:24 importantly to prepare them to be better 19:26 prepared to succeed when they 19:30 come here to the University so we are 19:32 working on this sort of if the students 19:34 would just smile heavily do better here 19:37 I'm working on on that that piece of it 19:39 but again we're never going to get only 19:41 the elite students in hangout the 19:42 comedian we should so that's that's my 19:45 second reason why I think now is a good 19:46 time 19:47 my third has to do with the changing 19:50 landscape and higher education 19:51 throughout the United States this idea 19:54 that well you know conscious isn't for 19:56 everybody and and yeah I'm sure you have 19:58 a high failure rate and and really you

20:01 know in some ways if you look at the way 20:04 universities are are ranked and 20:08 evaluated that you're kind of get credit 20:11 for not admitting people and you you you 20:14 know there's this idea that you gotta 20:16 just be a smart enough well that's 20:18 that's a problem for our country right 20:20 we need to do a better job we all know 20:22 these things you were less of a 20:24 manufacturing company higher education 20:26 to become more important for be able to 20:27 be successful and have a fair crack at a 20:30 middle class or an upper middle-class 20:31 lifestyle so there's a you know there's 20:34 a nationwide discussion about how we can 20:37 do this better and there are some 20:38 universities that really are being guite 20:39 innovative and I put this headline from 20:41 Georgia State this is from their website 20:43 but the it was them bragging about 20:46 getting an A PLU award for the impact 20:49 that they had on student success and one 20:51 aspect of it was using kind of big data 20:54 analytics to do a better job of working 20:57 with students to get them on a path to 21:00 success 21:00

that's not the only thing they've done 21:01 at Georgia State they've done a lot of 21:03 really interesting things to help 21:05 students succeed you know anything about 21:07 Georgia standards and open access 21:10 University you apply you get in it's 21:13 about seventy percent African American 21:16 over that they have now closed the gap 21:20 between underrepresented students and 21:22 non underrepresented students in terms 21:24 of retention and four-year graduation 21:26 rates and they didn't do it like that 21:28 they've been working at this for about a 21:29 decade but they haven't done a lot of 21:31 innovative things to to lead to change 21:34 so there are models out there and 21:36 they're folks and others 21:38 that we can learn from with you 100 21:40 sample I and you know I'm sure you know 21:42 it Arizona State University's done a lot 21:45 of things around changing the way they 21:49 go about education but I I had the 21:51 opportunity to go visit that campus this 21:53 summer but the summer before learn a bit 21:55 about what they were doing one of the 21:57 ideas I thought was really great was 21:59 this idea and this is actually from New

22:01 York Times article back in 2015 about 22:04 their their open or their online 22:08 freshman program a global Freshman 22:12 Academy that's what they call mechanic 22:14 but the it's not going to promo Saturday 22:16 you explain how they got there he said 22:18 you know we take we're also actually 22:20 open access or they were open access 22:23 they're now looking for the selective 22:24 but most of our students came in and 22:27 need to take college algebra so then we 22:29 looked at college algebra and at that 22:31 time at Arizona State University 50% of 22:34 the students got a C or better in 22:36 college algebra and 50% got an idea 22:40 he said so we thought about that I 22:41 thought let's think about the dynamics 22:42 of that you come to Arizona State 22:44 University you write a big check to take 22:46 courses including at that time maybe 22:49 five or six hundred bucks to take 22:50 college algebra we take or they took 22:52 your money and then we say you know it's 22:54 kind of a flip of the coin you might get 22:57 it you know good that doesn't make sense 23:01 so this this Academy they flipped things 23:04

around they put a high quality college 23:06 algebra online and made available for 23:08 free for anyone to take it now what they 23:11 did was then they said okay do you if 23:13 you got it taken not just sitting in the 23:15 classes but you do the quizzes you do 23:16 the tests and at one point you'll get an 23:20 email if you do well that says students 23:22 who performed like you did on the quiz 23:24 and last read quizzes and tests 90% of 23:26 them in order to be or better if they 23:28 take the final exam would you like to 23:29 take the final exam and you can choose 23:31 to take it or not 23:32 if you choose to take it most of the 23:33 students end up getting a B but then 23:36 they get a message to say 23:37 congratulations you've completed the 23:38 test if you want and this is a cost of 23:41 nothing so far if you want young Arizona 23:43 State University credit you can pay for 23:46 the credit no it's not paying for the 23:48 credit a head of time and saying well 23:49 it's a 50-50 chance you'll get it it's 23:52 saying you got it you want it turning 23:56 things around on their head no I'm not 23:57 saying that every University can do that

23:59 but I just gave these as examples where 24:01 universities are thinking very 24:02 differently about how to approach this 24:05 problem are these challenges the other 24:09 thing I got to do last year was as part 24:11 of a it was a grant from the Gates 24:14 Foundation to an organization called the 24:16 association of chief academic officers 24:18 and you put an application I was 24:21 selected there were 31 of us Provost 24:23 from around the country we spent a year 24:24 and they call this digital fellows or we 24:27 went to meetings four to four meetings 24:29 and we had to take on a project and a 24:31 bunch of partner jin-tae Nicene in the 24:33 back there 24:33 we took on a project around calculus one 24:37 but the work was focused on gateway 24:39 courses these courses are most 24:41 first-year students take and that have 24:43 tend to have high failure rates and 24:47 looking at using more contemporary 24:49 courseware digital tools that are more 24:54 sophisticated approaches then you stop 24:56 your second sake just because I'm 24:59 talking about math education is not why 25:05

thirty it's just a coincidence 25:14 what I learned I learned on that year 25:17 about these digital tools of why I just 25:18 took one to put up here in Alex 25:20 so altas uses artificial intelligence as 25:23 a you know individualize learning 25:27 experiences for students so if you're 25:29 taking this and you get a problem wrong 25:32 Alex knows what error you made and then 25:35 sends you down this path to learn the 25:37 right skill before you get you back 25:39 another student gets the same problem 25:40 long but because of a different type of 25:43 error that student goes down a different 25:44 path and brings you back to being on 25:47 track there are a host of these tools 25:51 every one of us in this digital Fellows 25:54 Program had to do a project and we 25:57 didn't I work with the math department 25:59 in Ghent I'm was the lead and pastor 26:01 Speer helped a lot too and sort of Nigel 26:03 but they brought the team together 26:04 around using something called Pearson 26:07 MyMathLab using before but now we're 26:10 using more of its full capabilities and 26:12 we're using it in a more sophisticated 26:14 way but my point is there are tools out

26:19 here that even five years ago didn't 26:21 exist 26:21 and if they existed they existed then 26:23 and they're kind of beta form and now 26:25 they're they've reached a level of 26:27 maturity there's also a network of 26:29 people nationally who are evaluating 26:31 these tools so I could show you a place 26:33 where you can go and you can click on 26:35 Alex and it'll show you what 26:36 universities are using it and it's great 26:38 they create a rubric on how to evaluate 26:40 it so you know what Alex is sort of 26:41 pretty good at it when it's not so good 26:43 at it's not just it's not mcgraw-hill 26:45 who developed this who who do that it's 26:48 and this was from another another graham 26:51 from Lumina Foundation to create this 26:55 this site for university users just to 26:58 have a dialogue about these tools all 27:01 right so there are opportunities now 27:02 that just didn't ever did not exist 27:04 before us 27:05 go ahead let me they'll get a little 27:07 more local so we have here a tool at the 27:09 University of Maine called academic 27:12

performance solution so this is a 27:13 screenshot of my screen this morning 27:17 academic performance solutions is about 27:21 looking at data to help us to do a 27:24 variety of things better but to look at 27:27 how we schedule courses to look at a 27:29 relationship between types of faculty 27:32 and course performance the you know 27:35 their lectures and verses tenure stream 27:37 can you stream a different level to look 27:40 at different groups of students so uh 27:42 and I made purposely gives it a 27:45 screenshot so I wouldn't be tempted to 27:46 fool with it but you can all I've got 27:49 here is very gross you know this 27:50 academic year and that's how many 27:52 students there's the colleges and the 27:54 trends over the last three years in 27:55 credit hours but it can break this down 27:58 I could choose a different term I could 28:00 choose well I can exclude the Hutchinson 28:04 said if I wanted to I can look only at 28:06 the College of Arts and Sciences I could 28:09 break this down by the type of course I 28:10 can look at every single math course if 28:12 I wanted to I could look at math courses 28:13 only in a certain level you can break

28:16 things down all the way to the to the 28:17 course level to look at what the 28:20 enrollment trends the success trends in 28:26 these data these are sophisticated tools 28:29 this is on the desk of every Dean now at 28:31 the university is on the desktop of most 28:34 of the associate Dean's and most of the 28:36 department chairs we are we are rolling 28:39 continuing to roll it out to have 28:41 training for department chairs and 28:44 associate Dean's and actually anyone 28:46 interested in doing this Deb Deb Allen 28:51 and the Office of Institutional research 28:52 is there kind of lead on this and are 28:55 our number one user 28:57 I was at the EB office earlier this week 28:59 and they showed me the number one user 29:01 most frequent is Deb Allen at the 29:03 University so anyone want to take a 29:07 guess and Jeff can go there any games 29:08 who do you think's in number two user 29:10 it's not me 29:11 do you know Emily her duck 29:15 number two user of solutions so my point 29:20 is there are tools now that we have 29:21 available to us that that were not 29:24

available before we've always had been 29:26 fortunate the last decade we have a 29:28 strong I our office but there's only a 29:32 certain amount it's a strong small in 29:34 our office there's only a certain amount 29:36 of work they can do this tool is allowed 29:38 us to export a lot of that work so 29:40 closer to the folks who needed in 29:43 allowing I already take on some other 29:45 task force the other tool we're going to 29:48 be bringing on this year we're part of 29:50 this also part of the company a B we're 29:52 preparing some becomes Student Success 29:53 collaborative and this is their problem 29:58 basically what their it will be a tool 30:02 where the tool is called navigating and 30:05 we will be bringing the navigator we are 30:08 bringing navigate to the University of 30:09 Maine what it is it's that you know 30:11 eventually any adviser or any faculty 30:15 member will have a dashboard on his or 30:18 her computer and when a student comes in 30:20 you've cooked and caught that student 30:22 you get all the information about them 30:24 as well as information we can get from 30:26 from from kind of big data and our own 30:29 data so looking at for example as soon

30:32 as we've got to see in this course one 30:34 of the probabilities they'll pass these 30:36 next courses so you can do data informed 30:39 advising the students navigate also is 30:42 an early alert system that will as much 30:46 as faculty want to contribute 30:47 effectively contribute you know you can 30:49 put in attendance if you want to quiz 30:52 grades and we can set things up 30:54 automatically so the student can get an 30:56 alert technically doesn't 30:58 that beer doesn't have to write it just 31:00 give the decision rules if they put in 31:02 attendance student an alert on on their 31:05 phone saying I see you missed the second 31:07 class of ro this week please see your 31:10 advisor or here we made an appointment 31:12 for you at the Writing Center at the 31:15 math lab Warren we can design this so 31:20 we're doing a better job communicating 31:22 with students and we're bringing better 31:23 and more easily accessible data to our 31:26 faculty you know and their professional 31:28 advisers to to bring this to the to the 31:35 advising task now the EAB will be here 31:38 on October 10th and 11th October 10th 31:41

we've got a group of kind of our 31:43 professional advisers who'll get a 31:44 demonstration of navigating October 11th 31:46 we've got a group of faculty are there 31:49 any slots left there are so there are 31:52 spots available on October 11th it if 31:53 you'd like to see this tool 31:55 demonstrating is I have seen any times I 31:58 find an extremely impressive contact 32:01 Jeff st. John and they'll get you in to 32:04 the to the demo the goal is to have this 32:07 piloting with the groups this spring and 32:10 work toward a larger roll out by by next 32:14 fall okay so I'm trying to give you four 32:20 inches of why the heck should we pay 32:21 attention to this now you know where as 32:24 we've been talking about it for decades 32:25 I guess because it's more important than 32:27 ever I would suggest it's because we 32:31 aren't addressing one of the most common 32:33 issues that people point which those 32:35 students aren't prepared we are working 32:37 to have to bring in and have students 32:39 who are better prepared to succeed it's 32:41 because there are models out there that 32:42 we can steal and borrow from I like to 32:44 joke as head I have never

32:46 an original idea in my life but I 32:48 recognize good ideas and I'm willing to 32:50 steal them and I think that's the 32:51 philosophy that we should take to this 32:53 before we have tools now and you I mean 32:57 we is not just alumni how we as in this 33:00 institution as tools and will soon have 33:02 tools that we can allow us to do things 33:04 in a more sophisticated and data 33:06 informed than we have the story now if 33:11 again just I'm gonna take a little time 33:12 to share a little bit about what we know 33:14 about first year success to find the way 33:16 I defined it at the University of Maine 33:19 so where we at I showed you the big 33:21 graph these are data the last three 33:23 years so I'm clicking the average of the 33:25 last three years 76% of students return 33:31 so you know is that good or bad its 33:36 dependence right so one way we decide 33:39 whether something is good or bad is a 33:40 look at comparison groups I'll give you 33:42 two comparison groups here one is the 33:45 Hannaford selected over and over so I 33:48 get appears and over select appear so 33:55 those you were paying attention to the 33:57

process that the system went through 33:59 around a budget creation how did we 34:02 hired a are they hired a consultant 34:05 company to go out and find peer 34:07 institutions on a literally a hundred or 34:10 more variables they looked at how 34:11 similar they were do you make their 34:13 budget the types of students they had 34:15 the types of faculty they have the 34:17 reasons that comes to do certain cetera 34:18 et cetera and they found creating a set 34:20 of peers for us our peers are eight 34:22 institutions if I remember right there 34:24 Montana State University North Dakota 34:26 State South Dakota State University of 34:29 Idaho University of Wyoming University 34:31 of Rhode Island UNH and you know 34:34 super month if you take the average of 34:36 those eight institutions they average at 34:39 81% first year retention so we don't 34:43 look so good 34:44 now be less again if you take UNH and 34:47 Vermont out of that this drops down to 34:50 about 78% it's still higher than us 34:54 slightly but but closer so that's one 35:00 way to look at it another way to look at 35:02 it is to say well how do we do against

35:04 our competitors so our competitors 35:06 particularly for for out-of-state 35:09 students are the other New England 35:10 land-grant universities we look at 35:13 students who've applied to University of 35:15 Maine and been accepted to the 35:17 University of Maine and didn't come here 35:19 what we can do is go to the sink all the 35:21 Clearinghouse and see where did they go 35:23 to school if they're from out of state 35:25 the most common place they went to was 35:27 another New England land-grant 35:28 University and compared to those peers 35:30 we're doing much worse we look at only 35:33 the no lingual and average an 88% 35:37 first-year retention so we have we have 35:40 we have work to do all right let me show 35:44 you little bit about what we know about 35:45 our students and who stays and who goes 35:51 so if they're from the state of Maine 35:53 give me three last three years averages 35:56 77 percent if they're from out of state 35:59 at 72 percent so when I showed you that 36:01 graph earlier about what happened over 36:03 the last three years my belief is that 36:06 we've slipped down a little bit and 36:08

that's not just random you know 36:10 statistical variation it's because we've 36:13 taken larger and larger percentage in 36:14 our first year of out-of-state students 36:16 and we're doing a little worse with 36:18 respect to those students staying on at 36:20 the University of Maine look at our 36:23 international students we do all right 36:25 certainly compared all typically or the 36:27 same as within 36:28 in state what do we know about in terms 36:31 of some of the kind of typical 36:34 background information I already 36:36 mentioned this that if you look at 36:38 students who are the first in their 36:40 family to come to college I've known in 36:42 the family who's got a college degree 36:45 there's quite a difference what's that 36:48 nine percentage point difference of 36:49 whether or not they stay if you look at 36:52 students who are eligible for Pell 36:54 grants as an indicator of their 36:56 financial hostility to do worse with 36:59 Kyle eligible students of an on Pell 37:01 eligible if you look at students who are 37:04 from underrepresented groups primarily 37:07 African American in this case we do

37:11 quite a bit quite a bit worse in terms 37:15 of retaining those students at the 37:16 University now we'll tell you this makes 37:19 us a lot like most institutions in the 37:21 United States of America quickly most 37:23 publics this is a pattern that you see 37:27 that doesn't make it okay but it is the 37:31 pattern that you've seen then when I was 37:34 talking earlier about values this is 37:35 what you don't feel so good this I don't 37:36 feel so good about this take this group 37:39 we are growing the number of represented 37:43 students in the university and I think 37:44 we're having where like students who 37:48 identify students of color here at the 37:51 University of Maine 37:52 that's guite an increase and we expect 37:55 to anticipate continuing that number to 37:58 continue to grow I think that's good for 38:00 us as an institution and it's good for 38:02 the state of Maine but we need to look 38:04 at how we how we succeed with those 38:07 students I was at a meeting recently 38:09 next I can't give you my source but what 38:11 new source it was the the CA v me 38:13 their source but they said that by the 38:16

Year 2023 the number of the percentage 38:19 of high school graduates in the United 38:22 States or underrepresented will top the 38:25 50 percent mark so they'll be more 38:26 underrepresented students and represent 38:29 students if you get a head around that 38:30 graduated the outside was a gender 38:33 difference at the University of Maine 38:34 that big linger difference for female 38:38 students are more likely to continue on 38:40 into their second year I talked a little 38:45 bit about preparation and you know how 38:49 well-prepared are these students to 38:51 succeed so I'll show you some some data 38:53 you know you can look at preparation in 38:55 a variety of ways one thing we do here 38:57 at the university when students apply 38:59 every student gets a rating on the 39:01 called the C index and a C index is 39:04 essentially basically equally weighted 39:08 high school GPA and SAT scores and it's 39:11 called the C index for those of you 39:13 remember Dean Charlie Slavin lovely 39:16 member of our community he came up with 39:18 this so they called the Charlie index 39:20 and then come down with ceilings so 39:22 every student gets put on the C index so

39:26 here's what happens C index so this is 39:29 your C index score and this is whether 39:32 or not you return for your second year 39:34 so you know I'm not surprisingly 39:36 students who are less well prepared 39:38 that's indicated by high school GPA and 39:41 SAT or that's likely to return and as 39:43 their preparation you know they get 39:46 stronger in preparation they're more 39:47 likely to succeed in the stay I think 39:50 this is kind of interesting 39:51 we're not really sure what to make of it 39:53 on the very tip-top group and we have a 39:55 little bit of a decrease I don't that 39:59 they're going to other institutions 40:01 they're going to succeed those 40:03 institutions I know you're worried about 40:05 it 40:05 the other thing I think of when I look 40:08 at this you know you talk to people who 40:09 say well you know what's the first u.s. 40:10 retention rate 40:12 it's about seventy five seventy six 40:14 percent again it gets back to our 40:30 mission higher our mission is taking 40:32 these students you know III you know 40:34

that's part of who we are and our role 40:35 but the reality recognize that there's 40:38 variability in how prepared students are 40:40 and how do we use this information to a 40:42 better job not tell them to be 40:43 successful the other thing that we've 40:45 known for a while I'll have to show you 40:47 the different ways of looking at is what 40:48 happens in your first semester has a big 40:51 big impact on whether or not they 40:53 continue on here at the University of 40:54 Maine but you can't read in the back 40:56 that's a first semester GPA of less than 40:59 one point five they're very unlikely to 41:02 come back for a second year those 41:04 students are on some kind of 41:05 probationary thing anyway I had a 41:07 super-secret suspension but hey you do 41:09 have an opportunity to come back very 41:12 very few of them do you know one point 41:16 five into two between 2 to 2.5 but this 41:20 I mean you don't have to be an eight 41:22 plus student you know we could get our 41:24 retention rate up to 86% just have a 2.5 41:27 or higher you're more likely to succeed 41:30 I was interested I'm very interested in 41:33 math and students math performance you 41:36 know math is it's about this time 41:39 there's about 79% of our students taking 41:41 a math class for the first year so I 41:43 asked Ted that looking at what's the 41:45 relationship between yours your 41:48 performance in your in a math class and 41:51 the likelihood that you'll return and 41:53 not surprisingly students who do well 41:56 return really drops off here they might 42:00 say well that's fine you know okay 42:02 one of the issues is in depend on the 42:05 back pleasure talking about this 42:06 represents about 40% of the students 35 42:09 35 % of students 42:11 take the class right so that's a problem 42:14 right so that it's I mean if if it was 42:16 like you know 50% of students were 42:19 getting AIDS about 35% are getting a DF 42:23 or withdrawing from the class so they 42:26 have a very low return rate nothing I 42:31 was interested in was about whether or 42:33 not students withdraw from the class and 42:35 I thought this was an interesting 42:37 finding there's you have a student in 42:39 their first year withdraws from one or 42:42 more classes about 55% chance that 42:46

they're gonna come back here for a 42:48 second year then always draw from 42:51 anywhere up to 79 79 % and finally we 42:56 had a book just a you know it's another 42:58 variation looking at the grades but if 43:00 you had one grade of C D or F the 70% 43:03 you had no CD rupturing 87% 43:08 before anyone else says it asks no I'm 43:14 not here to recommend me dumb down our 43:16 greeting but I think we need to think 43:21 about how to help these students to be 43:22 more successful they are who we have 43:25 work with here at the University of 43:27 Maine we need to think about and come up 43:30 with different ways to work with them I 43:33 said one more thing about one thing 43:35 about students the best figure out when 43:37 do they leave this bimodal thing we lose 43:41 a lot in their first start from October 43:45 15 that census day but a lot we lose 43:48 basically between semesters right they 43:50 did not do well in their first semester 43:52 typically or they decided for other 43:54 reasons that University was not 43:56 we'll come back well is it a few of them 43:58 but then the other big chunk is coming 44:01 back to their second year for variety of

44:04 reasons they don't come back now I just 44:08 kind of pick and choose chose some data 44:12 take kodachi dave allen did a really 44:15 nice report that gave you this summer 44:17 it's on first-year retention student 44:20 success that you made exploratory 44:23 analysis because what I did is I gave my 44:25 think four or five questions I said you 44:27 know what data do we have relevant to 44:28 these questions and then I said and you 44:31 come up a bunch of other questions too 44:32 so they give a really nice report the 44:34 data are much more nuanced in detail 44:36 than I have shared with you but you can 44:40 look at this it's online it's on let's 44:42 go to the provost website academic 44:44 affairs form and the report is there 44:46 then you can look at its breaks things 44:48 down in a variety of ways they look at 44:51 the common first-year courses how many 44:52 students take what course what 44:54 percentage courses and for those common 44:55 courses what's the success rate in those 44:58 courses and look at some of the 45:00 information that we get from the student 45:03 survey that we do at orientation 45:05

what do they think they're gonna do 45:06 versus how they do so I don't want to 45:14 just talk about I mentioned to you that 45:16 I was on this committee called Grint and 45:19 I was a new dean I go and the other 45:21 thing all we did was talk about it we 45:23 didn't say well I saw what a home in so 45:29 I don't want to do that so I have a is 45:31 what I have is I call it an outline of a 45:35 plan well a plan to create a plan if you 45:40 you know I could send in my office and 45:42 come up with a plan but I know it would 45:46 be a lot better if I have the university 45:49 community helping working with us on the 45:51 plan so part of my agenda for today is I 45:55 hope I've gotten you do you think yeah 45:56 this is important area something we can 45:58 do about it now is where I'm trying to 45:59 put the hook in and say hi we need help 46:02 so what I'm gonna do is talk with you 46:03 about what I have in mind about how 46:06 we'll go about creating a plan to 46:09 address this so let me just go through 46:12 some basic things here's what I call the 46:13 guiding principles in our plan what we 46:16 want to do is look at things that we can 46:18 do something about right so my plan is

46:21 we need to raise those salaries for k-12 46:24 teachers and which might be a nice thing 46:27 and if we could do that it sustained it 46:29 may be a long time that's not a good 46:31 plan right we want to look at what we 46:34 can do we here at the university broadly 46:36 we here within each unit at the 46:38 University as opposed to looking at the 46:41 things we cannot control nothing those 46:42 things aren't important but it's not a 46:45 good use of any of our time we're gonna 46:49 recommend we take a very multi-pronged 46:51 approach to this problem I've talked 46:54 this idea through with the deans at the 46:57 deans council I talked about the Provost 46:58 Council talked about the president's 47:00 cabinet I know with the rise center of 47:03 folks who talk about this a little bit 47:04 and at least twice I've gotten the 47:06 feedback of you know Jeff your plant 47:08 sounds like you want to throw the 47:09 kitchen sink at this and why not do it 47:11 in a stepwise fashion and do one thing 47:14 and then and then maybe maybe that's 47:17 good idea but I don't think so 47:20 when I go and look at other institutions 47:23

that have been successful so I mentioned 47:24 Georgia State for a few times they do 47:27 one thing they did a lot of things right 47:30 and they've done it and they have this 47:32 mindset of doing things and looking at 47:35 their data and improving upon what 47:36 they're due and tinker with it another 47:38 time to try to look at this as something 47:41 we're gonna have to work out for awhile 47:42 if we're gonna you know change a 20 or 47:45 maybe 30 year pattern so I would rather 47:49 take a multi-pronged approach the other 47:51 rather defensive the multi-pronged 47:53 approach is that they it's a problem as 47:55 multiple causes that in fact just Lee 47:58 just the problem or the issue you know 48:01 students who don't return to the 48:02 University of Reading for the second 48:03 year include students who are suspended 48:06 students who can always and said I'm 48:08 going off to Cornell students who are 48:12 doing fine academically but flamed out 48:15 socially here at the University so we're 48:18 talking about a heterogeneous group of 48:20 folks so I think when you look at it in 48:22 a variety of ways that we're gonna have 48:24 have an impact I've already said this

48:28 but I think with our strategy one of our 48:29 guiding principles is that we don't have 48:31 to invent every solution here at the 48:32 University of me we should be looking 48:34 around what others are doing borrowing 48:36 their ideas adapting them to how they 48:38 fit our our institution and our culture 48:41 and our students we can't take every 48:43 idea and just bring it here but there 48:44 are some good ideas out there and I 48:47 think we should draw upon them and I 48:50 want our approach to be data and 48:51 informed you know I second I had lots of 48:58 conversations about about a retention in 49:01 student success in you know apparently 49:05 when I talk with a group of faculty and 49:06 I you know even though people like David 49:09 said you're not really but I hear some 49:13 variation you know what when I was a 49:16 first-year student I had a course I was 49:19 really neat and it really cooked me and 49:22 L 49:22 and maybe one I really do great and 49:24 that's a great end I'm guilty this to if 49:27 you asked me sometimes I'll tell you my 49:28 experiences about mathematics and going 49:31

from being marginal and I had a first 49:36 year experience that was really great 49:37 but you know what we're the oddballs I 49:40 feel we are people who made our careers 49:42 in academia 49:43 we're representative except each other 49:48 right so so those think that antidotes 49:50 are really interesting they're great 49:51 entertainment I know why make I don't 49:53 want them to be the primary drivers of 49:56 the decisions we make about our 49:58 strategies I'm going to be data informed 50:01 I don't weigh everything you think of 50:03 Margaret Spellings she was George Bush 50:06 second Bush's Secretary of Education 50:08 she's now president of the University of 50:10 North Carolina system but she has a 50:11 great quote which is in god we trust' 50:15 everyone else bring data our sort of 50:20 philosophical approach to this we have 50:22 ideas 50:22 where are the data and what data do we 50:24 have or one day them do we need to get 50:26 to test out some of our assumptions so 50:29 like any good effort we put together a 50:33 steering committee and I should have 50:36 made a bigger deal out of this at the

50:38 outset apologize to Robert and Kenda 50:41 this is clearly an academic affairs 50:44 student affairs initiative we're working 50:46 on this together we realized that you 50:49 can do a lot of good things in the 50:50 classroom if you're not looking at the 50:52 whole student you're not going to be as 50:54 successful as you could be 50:56 similarly okay all the focusing only on 50:59 the student social experiences here is 51:01 great but we've got to be do a better 51:03 job of connecting these things looking 51:05 at this whole student in one kind of 51:08 broadly break that apart is in academic 51:10 affairs of his students so Robert Kenda 51:14 John Kahler from residential life is a 51:16 participant in this depth is essential 51:18 with our data person I'm gonna stop 51:20 the faculty said as giving me know has 51:23 told me they have two people I'm waiting 51:25 for the names I don't have me gave me 51:28 the other Jeff hey will you ever solve 51:32 that mystery and well as I talk more 51:39 about the plan there was a big role for 51:41 faculty and I'm glad to be with them and 51:44 so here's something here's sort of a 51:48

timeline of the way I'm thinking about 51:49 this so in the summer we collected data 51:53 Thank You Alan and Archie former 51:58 steering committee we did some planning 51:59 and thinking about how to go about this 52:01 right now at the fall launch here we are 52:04 there are really there are two parts or 52:08 at least the way I'm thinking about this 52:09 is parts two big sections of this plan 52:13 plan to make a plan and one involves 52:17 creating some working groups to look at 52:18 different aspects of this problem and 52:20 I'm going to walk you through those and 52:22 the second part about supercharged 52:24 directly to the faculty now probably the 52:26 less popular part but I do want to walk 52:29 through these today my goal is that I'm 52:31 gonna give these working groups a charge 52:35 and then I want to have them come back 52:38 to our steering committee with reports 52:41 sometime in the spring semester and then 52:43 we can look together the different 52:45 pieces and look at how do we leave these 52:47 together and working with the President 52:49 and with Clara to see what kind of money 52:51 we can bring to the table on this I 52:52 don't have a dollar amount but I

52:55 recognize this can't this won't be a 52:56 budget neutral of thing like the working 52:59 group said I when asked put together you 53:02 know I want to give their I want them to 53:03 give me their their recommendations and 53:05 I realize that some of those 53:07 recommendations are gonna cost money we 53:09 gotta bring this together and look at 53:10 them and even though I'd like to launch 53:11 everything by next fall we probably wind 53:13 up doing is even steps but anyway we 53:16 would spend the summer getting ready and 53:17 we were trying to start implementing our 53:19 plan by the fall okay so as I said this 53:24 is the way I've been thinking about this 53:25 I'd like to get some folks to get 53:27 together in working groups to look at 53:29 pieces of this problem 53:31 and pieces of this change and to come 53:34 back with a set of recommendations and 53:35 when the way they look each working 53:37 group I'll give a you know 53:39 individualized charge but the themes 53:42 that I talked about earlier will appear 53:44 I'm asking people to look at best 53:46 practices what are other institutions 53:48

how are they addressing some of these 53:50 things right and I can help with that 53:52 the CA B company we have a contract with 53:54 they do best practices research we can 53:56 ask them your working groups to say get 53:58 me get me everything you know about this 53:59 that's one piece second pieces again I 54:02 wouldn't be looking at data our own data 54:04 I don't want to solve problems unless we 54:07 can realize that yeah we're targeting in 54:08 the correct way and then when folks come 54:11 forward with recommendations so here's 54:13 how I've got the I got these orders and 54:16 again this is our open to discussion 54:18 okay so one big area and again looking 54:22 at the literature now nationally 54:25 president you know what these courses 54:29 that end up with the term gateway 54:30 courses are a stumbling block for 54:34 students throughout the United States 54:36 with no there was nothing but positive 54:39 feelings I'll say they tend to be math 54:41 chemistry biology English 101 and too 54:46 little lesser sense psych 100 there are 54:48 these entry-level courses and they're 54:51 the gateway to the University there are 54:53 students oftentimes in their first

54:55 semester taking these courses and so 54:59 there you know there are special 55:00 challenges with that there's a again as 55:03 I said there's a national conversation 55:04 about these gaming courses and how to be 55:07 more successful I don't want to put 55:09 together working group on getting a 55:10 course it's not gonna put together three 55:11 working years one is to look at how we 55:14 can do a better job of calling a 55:16 placement preparation in progress here 55:20 at the University mainly the only 55:21 placement testing we do is from math and 55:25 it's a it's we use a system that was 55:27 created here at the University made it's 55:29 a homegrown system and we 55:31 we try our best to get students to take 55:33 it during orientation or shortly after 55:35 that and it gives an indication about 55:37 what math class you should go into now 55:40 I'm about to quote the math faculty so 55:43 this is not me saying this is his 55:44 coaching perspective well-known good 55:47 math that it doesn't work another 55:51 variation is it's not valid in doing 55:55 this so now you can ask Natasha or Jam 55:56

to tell you how they know that they've 55:59 explained to me and I'm not surprised to 56:01 you that but I so thing one is to look 56:06 at how we do a better job with that I 56:08 already said almost 80% of our students 56:09 are taking math in their first year how 56:12 do we do a better job of getting them 56:14 into the right you know right to math 56:15 class but but how do we do a better job 56:18 to help them to be prepared to succeed 56:20 in that math right you know we can say 56:25 to them you took this you test into 56:27 precalculus or we could say you took 56:30 this we recommend you starting 56:31 precalculus but we also recommend you 56:33 brush up on these skills because our 56:36 testing shows that you're weak in these 56:38 areas and B are succeeding 56:39 you don't have to go back and take 56:40 college on but there are skills within 56:43 college algebra that you're weak on how 56:45 can we help you to prepare that you know 56:48 I don't know I showed you this tool 56:49 Aleks Aleks claims to do that I haven't 56:52 done a thorough analysis element about 56:54 there are other tools out there what I 56:56 want to do is ask a group to help look

56:58 at them um how do we how can we do 57:01 places better here at the University how 57:04 can we create a tool that not only helps 57:05 to place students but helps in you uh uh 57:08 either helps them to figure out how to 57:09 be prepared or helps us to provide them 57:11 the right resources to be prepared 57:13 so what then they get here they're gonna 57:15 more likely to succeed how can we use 57:18 tools to progress I'm going to point out 57:21 Jen time again is I think they're doing 57:23 an innovative thing in count one right 57:25 where they do the what do you call this 57:28 gateway tests not to be confused 57:31 courses but their tests that they're 57:33 essentially mastery tests you need to 57:36 you need to do this in order to move on 57:39 you can take the test as many times as 57:40 you want you're not you're not having 57:41 great month but to get it you've got to 57:43 get to a certain point move ahead in 57:45 this course are the ways we can take 57:48 that kind of idea and bring it to scale 57:50 there are there tools that are out there 57:52 being created by folks who bring a lot 57:55 of resources to this now we can use to 57:58

help us so I want to get a group to help 57:59 me look at how can we do a better job in 58:01 this placement preparation I want to put 58:06 together a group to help look at summer 58:08 preparation you know there are different 58:10 stealing ideas University of nevada-reno 58:12 does something called Nevada fit and 58:15 it's one week where students come and 58:18 they take actually in one credit hour 58:20 math class but they also learn about how 58:24 to access resources resources on the 58:27 campus that learn about studying and 58:30 they learn about the skills of being a 58:32 successful student I don't have every 58:35 student there they have identified 58:36 students or at risk and they make they 58:39 invite them to Nevada fit for one week 58:43 with the prior to the semester they have 58:44 encouraging data on underrepresented 58:47 groups in particular performing better 58:49 after they've been through Nevada fit is 58:51 that an idea that we're going to steal 58:52 we're gonna Baird make a look at a 58:54 variation of that why don't you know how 58:56 do we use summer courses summer school 58:59 the summer University I'm sorry in a 59:01 better way to do that I already

59:04 mentioned we're doing summer early 59:05 college things and then other things 59:06 that we can do to help students to be 59:08 prepared when they get here the third 59:11 group within this area I want to get 59:12 into folks look at it's a challenge to 59:16 teach gateway courses ferrata they're 59:21 very good there 59:23 in committee it's a it's a challenge it 59:27 has its special challenges and to do it 59:32 how can we do a better job in faculty 59:34 support and faculty development to get 59:37 the center for innovation teaching and 59:39 learning to take a lead on this to look 59:41 at what are the resources that people 59:42 need what do we can do what can we do do 59:45 a better job of professional development 59:47 so people are more likely to be 59:48 successful one of the resources that we 59:51 could bring to bear to help them in this 59:53 challenging task of these larger gateway 59:57 gateway classes president for any Monday 60:01 is interested guite interesting that 60:03 she's you know they should know math 60:04 education it's bring you know their data 60:06 that show you know success there's a lot 60:09

to do with the quality of instruction 60:10 right how do we help the best quality 60:14 instruction all right the second broad 60:16 area of calling onboarding is advising 60:19 and support right now every student at 60:22 the University of Maine has access to 60:24 first year success course some are 60:26 required to take them what do we know 60:29 about what makes a successful first year 60:31 success course what do we know what is 60:34 that one of the best practices and what 60:35 is the literature say I was at meeting 60:39 earlier this week and learned about 60:40 University of Texas Austin he's doing 60:43 something where they have it's actually 60:45 integrated with a regular course was 60:46 connected first year success of course 60:49 it's about helping students to develop 60:51 what they call the growth mindset as 60:53 opposed to a pass/fail mindset as 60:55 opposed to saying I'm a first-year 60:56 college student I'm not doing well I'm 60:58 not cut out for college I can't do this 61:00 to take a more of a growth mindset what 61:03 are the skills I don't have now what are 61:05 the things I need to work on being more 61:07 successful some interesting getting

61:09 preliminary but interesting ideas we'd 61:11 be looking at integrating some of those 61:12 in what we do 61:13 there's Student Orientation I'd like to 61:16 get group to go sale we're using that 61:18 time to the best ability that we can 61:20 what else can we do we have good folks 61:25 in all of our academic support services 61:28 areas and I happen to know that all of 61:31 these four could use more resources 61:34 I was nothing to know that we're not 61:36 sitting on a pot of gold so how do we 61:38 think about to make investments in these 61:40 areas elected the academic support 61:42 services group to be working to look at 61:44 together I now have better ways we can 61:46 utilize these resources this some of 61:49 this could be tied to the navigate tool 61:50 that we've talked about some of it could 61:53 be tied to other things so I'd like to 61:54 get a group to go and look at academic 61:56 support services as I said a lot of this 62:01 is we're looking at collaboration with 62:05 Student Affairs we do some living 62:09 learning communities where students with 62:12 similar academic interests how our house 62:14

together and there's some innovative 62:16 things you can do around that a lot of 62:18 the things we can do to do more Living 62:21 Learning Communities Robert and I talked 62:24 about this to kind of come up with all 62:25 the catchy titles okay with a very long 62:27 time ago three our Student Affairs 62:29 Alliance and hence I hit enhancement 62:31 they're out now think about this is let 62:34 some air in here is it's about you know 62:39 there are a lot of things that we do 62:40 with interaction between student affairs 62:42 and academic rooms can we do those 62:44 better what are other models that other 62:46 institutions do them to grow and improve 62:49 the quality of communication between 62:51 these two areas we create a a charge for 62:56 group to look at that and then there's 62:59 this idea of a Student Success head this 63:01 is something that dr. Dana and I have 63:03 talked about for quite a while could we 63:05 set up something here in the Union at a 63:07 central location that's like a 63:08 one-stop-shop for students the matter of 63:12 the analogy 63:14 it was like an an apple genius storm in 63:17 theory you can go in there with any

63:18 questions and they'll be able to get the 63:19 answer but I'm gonna try but that's what 63:21 I've been told I could we create 63:23 something like that here in Union there 63:26 are institutions that are trying things 63:27 that are sort of approximate that we 63:30 learn from their ideas in order to do it 63:32 what what does it take obviously it 63:35 takes more than space like one of the 63:37 trainings that they required how 63:39 feasible is this what budget would would 63:41 it take to really do this in a way 63:44 that's likely to succeed I'd like to get 63:46 a group of people together to 63:47 investigate that give it give you a 63:50 series of questions - god I want to put 63:53 a group together around financial 63:56 there's a variety of things at 63:58 institutions we can do that we're around 64:00 financial aid around with the way we use 64:03 work-study you know we know there's a 64:06 lot of literature on this you know you 64:09 look at what's called great point based 64:12 scholarships so we have our flagship 64:15 match I've liked so much you know is for 64:18 students what a state they pay are they 64:19

had a tuition scholarship that brings 64:22 the cost of attending here down the 64:24 equal to the cost of their home 64:25 institution but they have to make it 64:27 through to maintain a 3.0 GPA if they 64:31 lose that they lose that scholarship 64:33 that's a big change and that's a big 64:35 thing I haven't yeah look at how many 64:40 students will lose that scholarship do 64:41 we retain here at the University 64:43 maybe we shouldn't retain any of them 64:46 but then we should retain some of them 64:47 again I'll give you an example from 64:49 Georgia State again Georgia State has a 64:52 scholarship called the HOPE scholarship 64:53 and apparently it's very generous you 64:56 have to maintain a 3.0 it can maintain 64:58 your hope scholarship and not 65:00 surprisingly students will fall below 65:02 3.0 and lose their hope scholarship 65:04 don't return at high frequencies if you 65:07 will are they 65:08 love returns so they busted that they 65:10 said well what if why don't we look at 65:12 the students who are below they'd lost 65:14 their hope scholarship but they're not 65:16 that far below so they did a study

65:17 looking at students who are a 2.75 to 65:20 2.99 65:21 and they said to those students let's 65:23 develop a recovery plan so that you can 65:27 earn back your hope scholarship and we 65:30 can't we're not going to do scholarship 65:31 but we will give you a little bit of 65:32 money if you'll develop a plan and work 65:35 with us and there's other pieces so you 65:37 got to come in every week and touch base 65:39 but we'll give it \$500 this test matches 65:41 a lot less than the health plan but to 65:43 help you if you develop a plan and there 65:46 many of those students much with many 65:49 many more of those students continued on 65:51 at the university you know 65:53 regain their hope scholarship and we're 65:54 able to continue well their innovative 65:57 way so we can look out the way we use 65:58 financially to to do something like that 66:03 some universities are exploring looking 66:05 at some financial aid to be more like a 66:06 paycheck you you perform in a certain 66:09 way then you get your next chunk of 66:11 financial aid they can see the folks in 66:14 but could we approximate of things you 66:17

know there are things that that we can 66:19 think differently about it but also very 66:22 interested in work again whenever I talk 66:24 with faculty about students and and you 66:31 know success or students being retained 66:33 I'll say you know my students are 66:34 working 30 hours a week and I know there 66:37 are students who work 30 hours a week I 66:38 don't know how many of those students 66:40 are I don't know what's the relationship 66:42 between how many hours a week you work 66:43 and whether or not you're likely to come 66:46 back to the institution I have a hunch 66:49 there's probably a relationship that the 66:51 higher you go in working hours are less 66:54 likely are to come back but again I want 66:56 to be data-driven if it's a good hunch 66:57 is it a is it a linear relationship 67:00 kind of curvy linear piece if that's 67:02 true there ways that we can look at 67:05 alternatives for those students again 67:08 some universities are doing things where 67:10 they're helping students okay long term 67:13 in a structured way a long term their 67:16 long term goals versus their short their 67:18 short-term goals students giving up on 67:20 some cash that they get from working now 67:23 going from 15 hours a week to 25 hours 67:26 and they work left are going for 25 to 67:29 15 they earn less cash and they can't do 67:31 things right now that they want to do 67:33 but helping students to think about that 67:35 versus their longer-term goals and what 67:36 are the consequences of thinking about 67:38 that differently again just some ideas 67:40 that I'd like to have was to try to 67:41 explore and then finally we don't need 67:43 working because we already have a 67:44 steering committee around navigating our 67:46 non navigate this tool and we're gonna 67:51 bring that on board in the spring now as 67:54 I think about this you know I if I was a 67:57 more clever person that would put 67:59 together some kind of diagram that shows 68:00 how all these things interact but I 68:03 couldn't come up with one it didn't look 68:04 like a spiderweb so but that's the idea 68:07 is that if I can get working groups in 68:09 each of these areas 68:10 I'll give them a you know specific set 68:13 of questions I would like them to 68:14 address that's gonna look some time 68:16 doing it will provide resources to help 68:18

you to answer those questions and then 68:21 as a group come back and say you know 68:22 we've looked at this we've looked at 68:24 where other institutions are handling 68:26 this we look at our own data and your 68:28 some recommendations that we have and we 68:30 come back to the steering committee then 68:31 the steering committee get it when a pub 68:33 we'll come back and say look here's 68:35 here's what we're thinking in terms of 68:37 yeah I know I'm yammering on a little 68:41 too long so I'm gonna I am gonna don't 68:44 here's my thing so what am I asking for 68:46 you right I'm looking for people to 68:48 volunteer you're so much fun you can 68:51 shout out like this movement and Robin 68:53 will take your name now if you're not so 68:57 inclined that's okay too you go the 69:00 website disciplinary Affairs if you can 69:04 send me an e-mail say yeah I'm 69:05 interested or maybe I'm interested tell 69:07 me more what's going to involve or you 69:09 can get a friend in trouble I'm really 69:12 good at this and I'll reach out to them 69:16 if you want something make sure 69:17 something happens you'll copy Robin it 69:20 should make sure that you can also go to

69:22 the provost website academic affairs 69:25 faculty forum as I said you can review 69:28 this material that so inclined but but 69:30 there'll be a space for you to share 69:31 your ideas and share your resources you 69:34 know I as I said I've been talking about 69:36 this with different groups and talk with 69:37 the rhein I folks the rise Center and 69:39 attach the spirit send me an email with 69:41 a couple of really good ideas about 69:42 other institutions are doing that can 69:44 help I can will help as I can ask the 69:47 working group I can give them that 69:48 information to pursue to pursue fruit 69:52 all right I'm gonna try to do this next 69:56 piece a little bit quickly but it's but 69:58 it is an important part you think that 70:00 you look at these working groups that 70:01 I've put together they're there they're 70:04 about doing a better job in general 70:07 providing support for students and 70:08 helping students tried to be successful 70:11 but of course a lot of what happens it's 70:14 very important happens in the classroom 70:16 and in the curriculum I'm very 70:19 interested in having 70:20

our campus look at first-year curriculum 70:24 and I know that the people have to look 70:28 at that a lot of the faculty and I know 70:30 it's not it's not the faculty at large 70:31 it's the faculty at the unit because 70:34 that's where the program level is we 70:35 have 90 undergraduate degrees here 70:38 roughly at the University of Maine some 70:41 Theory we might have 90 first-year 70:45 curriculum I know that students have 70:47 some choice in their first year 70:48 curriculum there but some of the more 70:50 set than under the engineering of one in 70:52 the other in terms of how prescriptive 70:55 they are about the first-year curriculum 70:58 but what I'm interested in is having the 71:00 campus having faculty groups look at and 71:05 take some time to think about their 71:08 first-year curriculum let me show you 71:12 show you what one thing is ask them to 71:16 tell them to particularly what is the 71:20 first-year curriculum what's required of 71:22 your students in that first year 71:24 one of the major requirements one of the 71:26 general educational cards I'm thinking 71:28 you know if you're an engineering major 71:29 you got to take you gotta take calculus

71:32 or math 126 so that's a requirement is a 71:35 gen ed requirement but it's also a major 71:37 what are they for your area I think and 71:40 I know for many years and they only have 71:41 one or two required courses in the first 71:43 semester there's options but I'm also 71:46 interested in does your do you have a 71:48 recommended Kurt first-year curriculum 71:51 what do you recommend for a first year 71:54 student again recognizing students have 71:56 have a choice for though you had a good 72:00 memory and I gave it talk one of these 72:02 talks last year about our general 72:04 education requirements and in my opinion 72:07 we give to too many choices you could 72:10 look at that just the area of is it 72:11 human values in social context okay who 72:15 wants to guess how many possible 72:19 permutations are of the courses you 72:21 could take to fulfill that remark any 72:23 guess 72:24 come on taking us one person thirty four 72:30 billion thirty four billion permutations 72:34 of courses you could take to fill those 72:37 six area requirements to me that raises 72:41 questions about the learning outcomes 72:43

associated with those we give so many 72:45 choices I'm interested in your major you 72:49 know and I'm not even saying you'd have 72:51 to say specific courses but specific 72:53 areas you might appear so I'm a good 72:55 Steve Markham your sociology me you 72:57 might consider taking some courses in in 73:00 psychology or in political science I 73:04 think that would help our students have 73:06 we decrease that their choices early on 73:09 they'll help them have say in a 73:11 different way help them to make 73:12 intelligent choices early on their 73:14 career so I'm interested in what folks 73:15 recommendations are then what I'm 73:18 interested in is the more important 73:19 question which is why why is this the 73:22 first year recommended course are their 73:26 respective student learning outcomes and 73:28 then the empirical question all right if 73:30 this is it what evidence do you have 73:32 that it's working how well are we 73:35 succeeding in this in this with our 73:40 students taking this curriculum and I'll 73:42 give you example with this this is 73:44 University of Maine David if you're a 73:46 first year student and I'm not sure if

73:50 this is true I think it is and you are 73:52 required to take again Mitchell I've 73:55 already given you this again with all 73:56 due respect if you're required to take 73:59 gen chem and either math 122 over at 126 74:04 precalc or calc if you are taking both 74:07 those courses and your University of 74:10 Maine student and I randomly select you 74:12 from University Maine students there's a 74:14 40% chance that you'll pass both those 74:17 are our data the 40% chance that you 74:20 will get past both of those 74:22 courses remember what I showed you to 74:25 fail a single course or withdraw from 74:27 single course 55% chance you're gonna 74:30 come back for a second year those two 74:33 courses are required you know maybe I'd 74:36 like the group's to have some 74:37 conversation about why what and why is 74:40 that sequence is there another sequence 74:42 that that we could do or is there a way 74:44 of segmenting the students say for you 74:47 because of the good work we've done in 74:49 placement testing or other reasons you 74:52 know the probabilities are higher you 74:54 take this for you 74:56

you know if you do this the probability 74:58 that you're gonna pass these courses is 75:00 forty percent or lower right and how do 75:03 we help the students not to say you 75:04 can't be this major not saying that 75:06 you're gonna fail as a university main 75:08 student but we recommend against this 75:10 and here's another path so that's the 75:12 the next question I'll ask the group is 75:15 what are the risks getting multiple hide 75:17 the affirmative course my those risks 75:19 are there alternative paths are there 75:21 multiple paths to get to this to the 75:23 same area and can we do a better job of 75:27 addressing students once we've 75:29 identified what the risks are what its 75:31 in place to mitigate those risks and 75:32 what else can we do to mitigate now I 75:36 know this is a convenience re kind of 75:42 power persuasion and there's very few 75:43 people I can direct it to anything but I 75:46 can direct the I and I discussed this 75:49 with Dean's 75:50 so I'm going to direct the deans to then 75:53 going our colleges and work with their 75:54 their their departments and to get 75:58 faculty looking at these questionable

76:00 sorry what we want to do is to have a 76:02 thoughtful data informed discussion 76:05 about are we setting our students up for 76:08 failure or success what can we do to 76:11 change other ways that we can think 76:13 differently about our approach to their 76:16 education has been change the percentage 76:19 of students or 76:20 succeed in that I'm not worried about 76:21 those students who have a C index of 89 76:25 year magna file they're gonna be fine 76:27 right they are not all of our students 76:29 and if we design our curriculum just 76:31 throwing those students we're doing a 76:33 disservice in graphical manner