

Academic Senate Report: Guided Pathways Update

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Overview

The Guided Pathways initiative at SRJC has progressed from the design and inquiry phases into full implementation, with a focus on transforming the student experience to best support student access, retention, and completion. This work is critical in light of changing student demographics, economic challenges, and enrollment trends. Two faculty coordinators were hired in Fall 2024 to assist with the work, Michael Hale, English Faculty, as overall Guided Pathways Coordinator, and Filomena Avila, Academic Counselor, is the faculty coordinator for the Mapping and Academic & Career Interest area development project.

Key Updates and Progress

- **Program Mapping Initiative:**
 - Mapping is a major focus of the Spring 2025 semester, aiming to provide clear roadmaps of the requirements for students through their programs.
 - The transition from SRJC's current SIS to Banner requires integration with CourseLeaf and DegreeWorks (part of our new package of SIS software) for accuracy in course sequencing.
 - Considerations include mapping for full-time vs. part-time students and aligning program maps with transfer and career education pathways.
 - A final decision on software (Program Mapper vs. CourseLeaf) is pending due diligence and sustainability assessments.
- **Student Engagement and Communication:**
 - A student advisory squad is being developed to ensure meaningful student input without overburdening participants.
 - A branding initiative, **SRJC Forward: Reimagining the Student Experience**, is proposed to unify the college's guided pathways efforts.
 - The Communications & Marketing team is working on increasing awareness across all stakeholders, including faculty and students.

Future Items in the Guided Pathways Workplan (Fall 2025 and Beyond)

- **Academic Clustering:** Developing interest areas to help students explore and identify suitable academic and career paths.
- **First-Year Experience Development:** Integrating existing support structures into a cohesive first-year experience framework.

- **Student Success Networks:** Creating structured academic and student support systems aligned with program maps and interest areas.
- **Sustaining Guided Pathways Work:** Ensuring that efforts are institutionalized as external funding phases out.
- **Synchronization:** Ensuring that Guided Pathways is completed in partnership with other college initiatives, such as District Planning, the Student Equity plan, Adult Education, Strong Workforce Development, and more.
- **Improved Website Navigation:** Ensuring that the SRJC website is optimally suited to address the needs for communication and interaction for our incoming and current students.

Action: Faculty will be involved in:

- Reviewing and validating current SRJC program course sequences to ensure they reflect accurate requirements and current course sequences.
- Providing feedback on mapping, academic clustering, and student success initiatives.
- Engaging in ongoing discussions about how Guided Pathways can best serve our diverse student populations.

For additional details, visit: guidedpathways.santarosa.edu or contact Nick Perrone or Michael Hale.