

Guided Pathways Past, Present, and Futures

Compiled, Edited, and Written by

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Part One – The Past: Guided Pathways at SRJC 2017 – 2022

- The initial Guided Pathways project from the Chancellor’s office was viewed as a five-year effort (2017-2022), with the AY2022-23 provided as an extension for colleges to complete projects already underway.
- Guided Pathways, as originally presented from the Chancellor’s Office, was both a laundry list of best practices as well as general “improvement work” that would increase educational goal attainment of students.
- SRJC adopted a faculty-led approach ([go here to see the history of Senate activity on Guided Pathways](#)) that eventually focused on five major areas of improvement currently being implemented: Academic Support Backpacks, Interdisciplinary FYE Course, Program Mapping, FYE Program, and Student-Facing Website Redesign (as described in Part Two).

Part Two – The Present: SRJC Guided Pathways

Summer 2022 Work Updates and Fall 2022 Implementation Plans

Academic Support Backpacks Workgroup: E. Dale, M. Hale, J. Paisley

Activities/Goals Completed Summer 2022

- We completed a test page for the phase 1 static backpack website: <https://test-layout.santarosa.edu/backpack>. There is some minor editing to do on the test page that Leila is able help support, and once that occurs the page could be posted, and students could start using even before the "backpack" functions are up and running.
- We continued to add to the list of services and work on the logic for the programmer for when we move to the dynamic website portion of our proposal: https://srjc-my.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/personal/jpaisley_santarosa_edu/EZCMQPpec7NEojV4EvOC2ysB98NNMaTS2sj4F1OBpZ3MYw?rttime=CeRjQDqF2kg

Expected Implementation Activities AY2022-23

- Having completed phase one of our proposal, we will move on to phase 2-4 of our proposal. We will provide support for the integration and implementation of the SRJC Connect and Student Contact Management (formerly Hubspot) connection to the Academic Backpack.
- Continue research on phase 4, a Student Facing “Backpack.” This will be easier because the district has now chosen a new ERP/SIS system.

Support Expectations of Academic Senate: Continued support and funding to implement the items described above.

Future Support Expectations and Partnerships Necessary

- When all the phases of our project are implemented, we would need help recruiting and training faculty to use this wonderful new service.
- **Partnership Request**
 - Request use of Student Services software, SRJC Connect, and Hubspot
 - Request management of the backpack creation project from Student Services
 - Request the Student Services technology unit to become custodians of the customized backpack
 - Request Academic Senate designate a liaison for ongoing consultation

Interdisciplinary FYE Course Workgroup: A. Donegan, S. Feldman, D. Frontczak

Activities/Goals Completed Summer 2022. Members of the team met with Josh and Ann for a few hours in June and then began preliminary work on the COR.

Expected Implementation Activities AY2022-23. A COR needs to be completed, approved by the Senate, and then submitted to CRC by Dec. 23, 2022, for CSU transferable courses and then again in March of 2023 for UC transferable. Ann Foster and Josh Adams (CRC Co-Chairs) are knowledgeable about creating a template COR that could be used by any group of instructors, “which is very doable” according to team members.

Support Expectations of Academic Senate. Two identified hurdles: A department is needed to house/locate this course, and can the Senate do this work? Is it possible? If so, the team is happy to bring the COR to the Senate and then on to the CRC. If not, suggestions on how to proceed are appreciated.

Also, Counseling offers important FYE courses, but they are not interdisciplinary as are being proposed by the Senate, who voted unanimously to develop an interdisciplinary FYE course on November 18th, 2022. The hope is that Counselors will join other faculty colleagues in developing the new courses, and the team thinks that implementation will go much smoother if the ASEC and Senate reaches out to the Counseling Department for coordination and consultation. Some of the key language from the 2020 motion that was approved was:

- **Workgroup recommendation 2 – Title:** *Create an Interdisciplinary-taught FYE Course Combining Academic Discovery, Introductory College Skills, and Community Engagement*
- **Workgroup recommendation 2 – Description:** *Imagine a course taught by SRJC discipline experts that inspires academic exploration. While adjusting to studies at SRJC, students would be introduced to a variety of disciplinary pathways in a way that ignites intellectual curiosity and civic engagement. A first-year course welcomes students to the pursuit of knowledge and explores the interconnectedness of academic inquiry. This course would be anchored in SRJC’s FYE program to connect students with interdisciplinary learning experiences, learning support, and engagement activities across the district. Multiple sections of this course could be integrated through a common read and/or shared community intellectual experiences.*

Future Support Expectations and Partnerships Necessary. After the aforementioned activities, votes, consultations, etc. are completed, faculty will need to be recruited to teach sections of the interdisciplinary course via Department meetings and other outreach efforts.

Program Mapping Workgroup: T. Johnson, T. Jacobson, C. Williams, A. Deen

Activities/Goals Completed Summer 2022. T. Johnson and T. Jacobson worked on implementing the changes requested from DCC/IM in early June and sent to Josh Adams (CRC Co-Chair) with handoff of webpage format & detailed content on June 13th. No further consultation was requested post hand off during Summer 2022.

Expected Implementation Activities AY2022-23. Team members hope to be consulted on content during design phase with continued faculty consultation through design and implementation phases (estimated 20 hours total each) and linking of Mapping webpage to new homepage work expected as well (another 20 hours total each).

Support Expectations of Academic Senate and Future Support Expectations and Partnerships Necessary. Team members would appreciate review and consultation regarding the implementation or mapping of recommended content with:

- [1] Continued maintenance of Mapping content (ensuring links stay active, adding new resources and removing as needed)
- [2] Continued maintenance of Mapping webpage (ensuring links stay active, adding new resources and removing as needed), and;
- [3] Implementation along with new Program Mapper software when online.

FYE Programs Workgroup: R. Bruenn, N. Hill, B. Reaves, R. Romagnoli

Activities/Goals Completed Summer 2022 and Expected Implementation Activities AY2022-23

Over summer, our work group continued exploring FYE possibilities and implementation strategies. We looked at several other colleges including Pasadena City College, Las Positas, College of San Mateo, and multiple other colleges with variations of FYE programs.

Once we collected myriad ideas, we designed a pilot FYE that combines what we've learned with our understanding of what we already have that can be coalesced into an FYE experience. We spent a great deal of time considering the needs of first year students, particularly in a climate where Covid and climate crises are endemic. SRJC has created multiple programs to help students meet their basic needs (food, housing, emergency grants), as well as to increase student engagement (Intercultural Center, Ethnic Studies, etc.). The FYE we've designed integrates all these already-existing resources into a highly supportive, community responsive, flexible, academic pathway that invites students to explore majors that will lead them into meaningful work back in our community. This could be the seed of a grow-our-own educator program, as we see happening at other colleges.

Support Expectations of Academic Senate and Future Support Expectations and Partnerships Necessary

Cross-Constituency, and student-equity-driven coalition, like ISSC, to bring the work together and start a pilot beginning summer 2023. Our work this academic year is to help/collaborate to build the pilot we designed. Our project is not a "program", but an institutional effort to engage and retain minoritized student groups in their first/returning year.

Student-Facing Website Redesign Workgroup

T. Frongia, A. Oliver, K. Smith with E. Bricker, A. Gratto-Bachman, and L. Rand

Activities/Goals Completed Summer 2022

While the work in spring 2022 focused primarily on discovery work (focus groups, interviews, surveys), the efforts in summer 2022 extended into the initial application of the discovery work with the information architecture and user experience design phase. We used the strategy report (information gleaned from student surveys, feedback, and focus groups) to develop *user personas*, which are theoretical versions of students who reflect the diverse backgrounds and demographics of our student population. From these personas, we developed an initial *site map*, which outlined the pages we'll be developing in this section of the website, beginning with who a student is (new student, returning student, ESL student, etc.) and then routing them to appropriate areas of content that will help guide them through their educational journey that includes how to get started and how to get the support they need.

Expected Implementation Activities AY2022-23

We are currently working on the design of *wireframes*, which will be initial, basic layouts of what information will be included on each page. Once we have those final drafts in place, we'll be turning to content development and visual design that will consist of the language that will be on each page, links, images, and visual layouts. We will also be working on the design of the *entryway* to this website section from the homepage. Once this work is complete, we'll move on to user testing, to ensure that the pages work as intended and will adjust as needed.

Support Expectations of Academic Senate

We would like to request augmentation of \$20,081 for the Guided Pathways Webpage Redesign Project- Student Journeys, in order to amend our current contract to include an additional 15 pages of content development and page templates. This work will help advance the project while incorporating student-centered language appropriate for the student journey section of the site. These pages will be written over two rounds of feedback, will include notes and tools, and will act as templates to support SRJC staff and faculty in writing/revising additional pages in the future.

Student-Facing Website Redesign Workgroup [concluded]

Future Support Expectations and Partnerships Necessary

We request ongoing financial support to pay for faculty participation through the conclusion of this project (June 30, 2023). Once the work of the Guided Pathways web group has concluded, continued oversight and maintenance of the *student journey* section of the website will move to the IT department and the district Website Workgroup.

**Part The – The Future:
Guided Pathways at SRJC 2022 – 2026**

- The Chancellor’s office now uses “Guided Pathways” as for general term for work colleges undertake to increase student educational attainment. There are a few ways this is being reframed state-wide:
 - As the Chancellor’s Office Equitable Learning, Experience, and Impact Division writes (see also 29 July 2022 Guidance Memo): *“The Guided Pathways framework is the vehicle for guiding and organizing system transformation and strategic efforts toward achieving Vision for Success goals. In addition to Guided Pathways’ four pillars, the system also expressly commits to:*
 1. *engage in institutional change that improves student outcomes and closes achievement gaps;*
 2. *identify and eliminate student friction points;*
 3. *assume everything can and should change; and*
 4. *work together to change student outcomes.”*
 - As is also stated in the [“Update to the Vision for Success”](#) 2021 document:
 - *“Guided Pathways is a framework for transformative institutional change that provides a structure for colleges to scrutinize their practices, disaggregate data to uncover opportunity and attainment gaps, and redesign college programs and policies with the aim of providing every student with a clear path to graduation and quality job opportunities.”*
 - *“Guided Pathways is based on the idea that students need structured, cohesive support to reach their end goals and recognizes that support needs will differ from one individual student to another”* (p.11 [Update to the Vision for Success: Reaffirming Equity in a Time of Recovery](#))
- The Chancellor’s Office has viewed the Guided Pathways effort as successful in increasing student outcomes and has authorized a new five-year period with a focus on the following three areas (see also 29 July 2022 Guidance Memo):
 1. *“implementation of system equity priorities with fidelity;*
 2. *prioritizing teaching and learning; and*
 3. *promoting Key Performance Indicator (KPI)-informed continuous improvement.”*
- SRJC will receive an allocation of approximately \$552,000 for the 2022-2026 period.
 - As is customary, workplans and reporting are required beginning this academic year.
 - Questions and Reports already introduced to the Academic Senate at its 18 August meeting (see also minutes at [current meeting materials](#)) are contributing to the development of the college’s *Student Equity Plan* and the *ACCJC Accreditation Peer Review Team Report and Action Plan*, the two of which are considered to fit within the Guided Pathways framework of activities.
 - The current implementation of 2017—22 projects also provides a springboard from which future work can be based while new cross-college equity initiatives and educational supports are initiated and explored.