

## Lane Benchmarking: Peer Institutions Comparison

Per the NWCCU's [Peer Institutions and Benchmarking Purpose and Frequently Asked Questions guidance](#), Lane benchmarks student achievement efforts by comparing Lane's student achievement data to 4 regional and 10 national peer institutions. These colleges were selected based on: headcount and FTE; comparable mix of instructional program offerings (mix of transfer and professional/technical programs), and comparable student demographics; service to a similar population; and institution location. IPEDS was useful in narrowing down colleges based on these factors. Once the initial list of potential peer colleges had been identified and a group of stakeholders agreed upon these 14 institutions – 4 regional and 10 national institutions.



## Description of Institutions

### Regional Institutions

Chemeketa, Salem, OR

Chemeketa Community College is a federally designated Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI). Chemeketa offers 40 one- and two-year programs to prepare student for a professional career and transferring to a 4-yr Institution. Chemeketa offers *College Credit Now* (tuition free) program to local high school students. Chemeketa's service area includes Marion, Polk and Yamhill counties which have a population of 541,000.

Clark College, Vancouver, WA

Clark College is a public community college offering more than 100 options for earning a bachelor degree, associate degree, certificate. With 11,500 students, Clark College is the largest institution of higher education in southwest Washington. The college hosts *Running Start* allowing high school students to attend college classes and earn college credit, tuition-free. Clark College's service area is Vancouver, with a total population of 191,000.

Green River College, Auburn, WA

Green River College is an open-access, public college offering a wide variety of transfer degrees, bachelor of applied science degrees, career and technical education, pre-college and basic skills courses and continuing and community education classes. Green River has a strong international program. In 2014, Green River College began offering Bachelor of Applied Science degree programs and by 2018 awarded 118 degrees. Green River's main service area is Kent and Enumclaw which have a total population of 149,500.

Mt Hood, Gresham, OR

Mt Hood offers career technical programs include nursing, integrated media, automotive technology and transfer opportunities to local universities toward degrees in humanities and science programs. MHCC is home to an Eastern Oregon University 4-year degree program in Business Administration or Education. Mt Hood's main service area is Gresham and Sandy which have a total population of 127,500, however MHCC is only 15 miles east of Portland.

### National Institutions

Aims Community College, Greeley, CO

Aims offers over 200 degrees and certificates from more than 50 academic areas of study. With more than 4,000 daytime, evening, weekend and online course offerings each year, students have flexibility to complete coursework. Greeley the home of Aims CC, has a total population of 109,000.

Cabrillo, Aptos, CA

Cabrillo College is a federally designated Hispanic Serving Institution with more than 70 fields of study, 26 career educational programs across 2 campuses, average class size is 25-30 students. The Cabrillo Promise Program provides free tuition for the first two years to any first-time college student. Aptos, the home of Cabrillo College, is located in Santa Cruz County which has a total population of 271,000.

Forsyth Technical, Winston-Salem, NC

Forsyth Technical Community College offers a variety of academic programs in accounting, biotechnology, business administration, vascular interventional technology, carpentry and computer engineering technology. It also provides programs in film and video production and fire protection technology. It additionally provides high school dual enrollment, corporate and continuing education programs. The population of the Winston-Salem metropolitan area is estimated to be 695,630.

Guilford Tech, Jamestown, NC

Guilford Technical Community College offers wide array of career technical programs ranging from Culinary and Hospitality Management to Computer Technology to Health Science programs to Public Safety Training Center. In the Center for Advanced Manufacturing, GTCC offers machining, welding and transportation related programs. Additionally, GTCC offers transfer program for students interested in obtaining a

baccalaureate degree in a variety of fields. The campus also houses the *Middle College at Jamestown*, a collaboration with Guilford County Schools to allow high school students to accelerate their progress towards a two-year degree. Jamestown is a suburb of Greensboro with a population over 300,000.

Lehigh Carbon, Schnecksville, PA

Lehigh Carbon Community College offers over 90 programs ranging from associate degrees to workforce certificates to ESL and GED courses, the school serves as the primary granter of associate degrees in Lehigh County. Schnecksville is a suburb of Allentown (pop=126,000) in Lehigh County whose population is 375,000.

Mission, Santa Clara, CA

Mission College is a public two-year community college located in the City of Santa Clara providing preparation for university transfer, and specialized job training in fields such as nursing, engineering, and firefighting. The city service area has a population of 128,000 while the county has a population of 1,936,259.

Montgomery, Blue Bell, PA

Montgomery Community College offers 106 programs & majors across 2 campuses, they host high school enrollment, however those courses are not tuition free. The new Hospitality Institute is scheduled to open in fall 2024. Montgomery CC is located in Whippen Township which has a population of 19,000, however the larger service area is Montgomery County with a population of 856,000.

Pueblo, Pueblo, CO

Pueblo Community College has been a Hispanic Serving Institution for more than 30 years. Serving more than 5,000 students across more than 70 degree and certificate programs that will lead towards a career in business and industry or transfer to a four-year university. The personalized student support has been identified as an exemplar model. Pueblo service area has a population of 168,000.

Rock Valley, Rockford, IL

Rock Valley has AA degrees in liberal arts and business for transfer students. The Advanced Tech Center is home to many of Career and Technical Education programs, including CNC Machining, Mechatronics, Welding, Truck Driver Training, and more. In the fall of 2015, the college opened its Aviation Career Education Center. Rock Valley service area has a population of 286,000.

Truckee Meadows, Reno, NV

TMCC has 70 programs that lead to more than 1,650 degrees. The College is northern Nevada's jobs college - preparing students for jobs in industries.. TMCC serves nearly 20,000 students each year in credit and non-credit programs at four educational sites and more than 20 community locations. TMCC service area has a population of 278,000.

**Table 1. Lane's Selected Comparison Institutions by Size and Demographic Factors utilizing IPEDS 2023 data reports**

Institution	Headcount (12month)	Fall credit-seeking	% Full-time	% Online Only	% Female	% Pell Recipient	% Latinx Students	% Students of Color	
Regional	Lane	11,973	6,807	40%	28%	53%	39%	15%	14%
	Chemeketa	12,974	7,492	43%	52%	57%	48%	29%	9%
	Clark	10,538	6,921	53%	67%	60%	24%	14%	16%
	Green River	10,462	6,559	61%	56%	52%	26%	13%	31%
	Mt Hood	12,234	5,893	33%	8%	44%	39%	17%	17%
National	Aims	10,162	6,940	28%	21%	55%	39%	34%	7%
	Cabrillo	14,473	9,075	32%	60%	58%	32%	49%	10%
	Forsyth Technical	10,038	7,774	35%	44%	64%	52%	16%	30%
	Guilford Tech	15,064	9,960	37%	37%	59%	58%	13%	42%
	Lehigh Carbon	8,979	6,324	32%	53%	66%	48%	27%	15%
	Mission	11,314	5,910	22%	79%	57%	31%	33%	51%
	Montgomery	16,424	8,996	29%	47%	60%	37%	10%	26%
	Pueblo	7,844	5,938	27%	19%	59%	64%	34%	11%
	Rock Valley	8,551	5,494	44%	26%	57%	30%	25%	15%
	Truckee Meadows	14,097	9,431	28%	30%	55%	37%	34%	14%

## Comparison of Leading Success Metrics

The leading indicators of student success are measures of student performance and momentum within their first term and first year. Utilizing the Voluntary Framework of Accountability (VFA) data collection for 2023, only 7 of our 14 selected comparison institutions are included below due to individual school participation in VFA.

### College Readiness

Institutions	Math		Writing	
	# of Students	% Became College Ready	# of Students	% Became College Ready
Aims	531	81.5%	329	89.1%
Chemeketa	1,191	71.9%	454	87.4%
Green River	603	71.5%	197	89.3%
Guilford Tech	439	45.3%	274	92.7%
LANE	982	61.6%	304	90.8%
Lehigh Carbon	334	53.9%	81	97.5%
Montgomery	600	72.7%	99	90.9%
Mt Hood	809	53.5%	107	98.1%

### College Momentum

Institutions	Cohort Size	No Success 1st Term	Fall to Winter Retention	1st Term Credit Success Rate	Two Year Credit Success Rate	Reached Credit Threshold	Still Enrolled
Aims	776	3.9%	89.3%	88.2%	83.8%	60.1%	45.1%
Chemeketa	1,431	2.3%	95.7%	90.9%	86.6%	59.9%	51.9%
Green River	806	4.3%	93.8%	84.8%	82.2%	60.7%	45.3%
Guilford Tech	1,659	4.2%	92.3%	82.3%	78.3%	68.1%	46.8%
LANE	1,240	2.2%	94.3%	91.1%	86.7%	59.9%	50.9%
Lehigh Carbon	1,012	3.6%	92.2%	81.5%	78.0%	60.8%	56.4%
Montgomery	1,787	5.4%	91.8%	82.7%	80.6%	60.4%	58.0%
Mt Hood	1,149	2.3%	89.5%	90.5%	88.6%	60.4%	53.2%

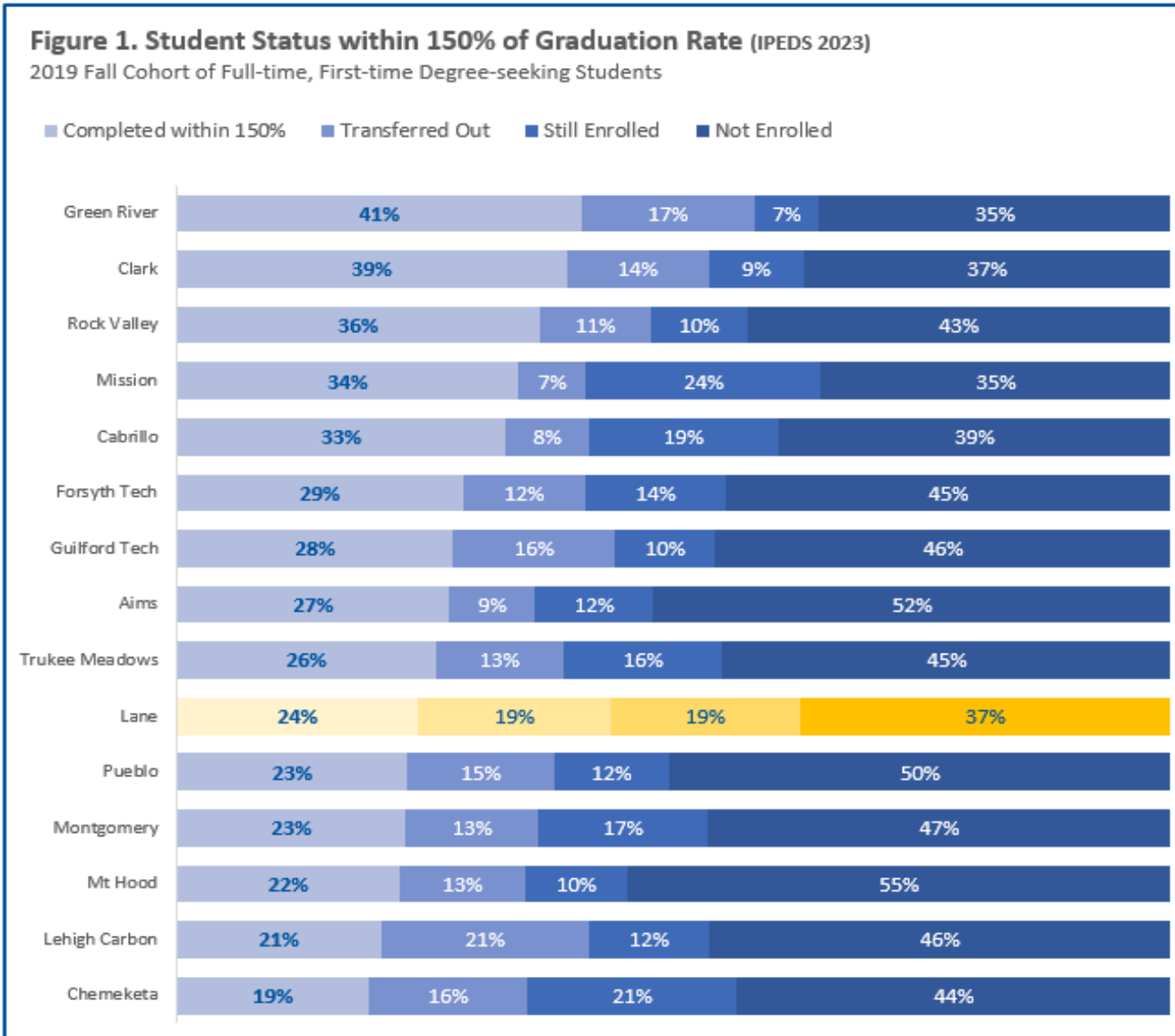
### **Analysis of Leading Success Metric – Credit Momentum**

For students to complete a degree, they must remain in college. Nationally, almost half of all first-time, full-time students enrolling in community colleges do not return to the second fall term. Ensuring that Lane students persist term to term is the primary and most challenging goal. Additionally, at the same time, Lane needs to ensure that students make progress towards accumulating credits towards a credential in their program of study.

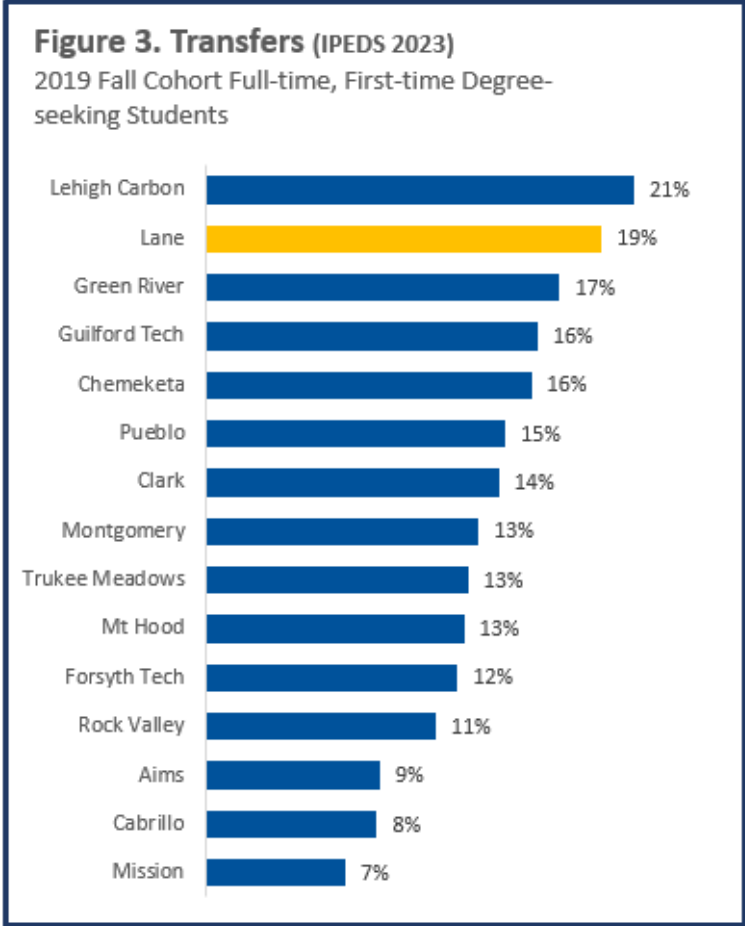
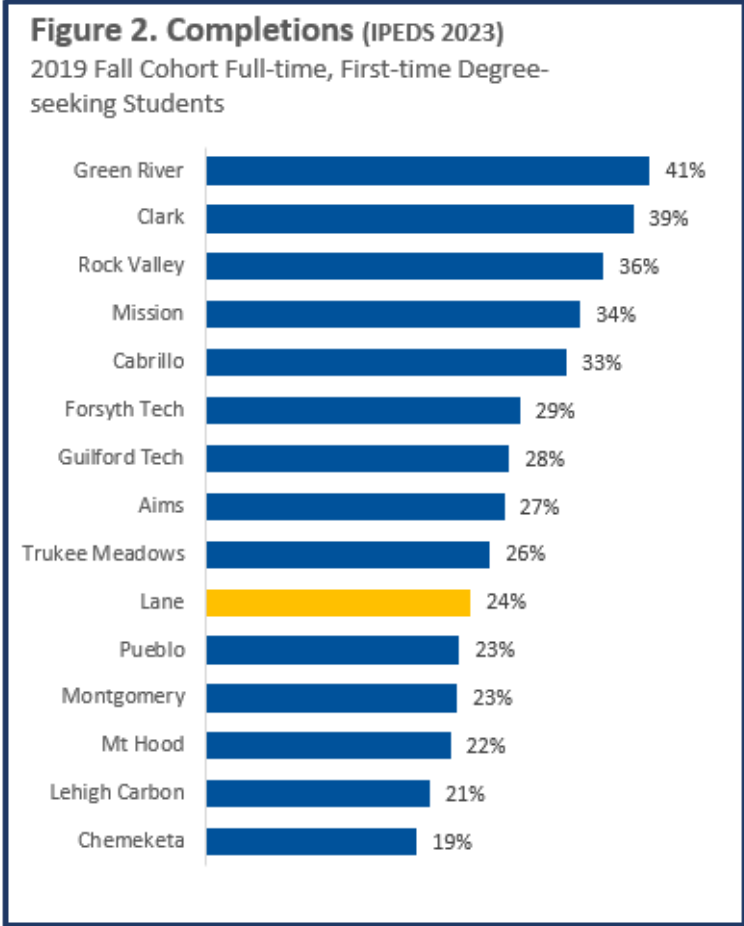
As seen above, Lane is successful with Fall credential-seeking students for the first term however as students reach their second year the majority of the peer institutions have a higher success rate. It is recommended to work with the regional peers (Chemeketa and Mt Hood) as well as the national peers (Lehigh Carbon and Montgomery) to gain insight of their success with students.

## Comparison of Lagging Success Metrics

Completion outcomes reflect long-term performance of students, known as lagging indicators of student success. Graduation and transfer rates are captured by Lane at three key points of time –3,4, and 6 years from initial enrollment as a degree-seeking student. At these points, completion of a degree or certificate or transferring to a 4-year institution are considered successful outcomes. For benchmarking purposes, Lane utilizes IPEDS lagging metrics of 150% graduation and transfer rates and VFA’s 6-year lagging outcome measures.

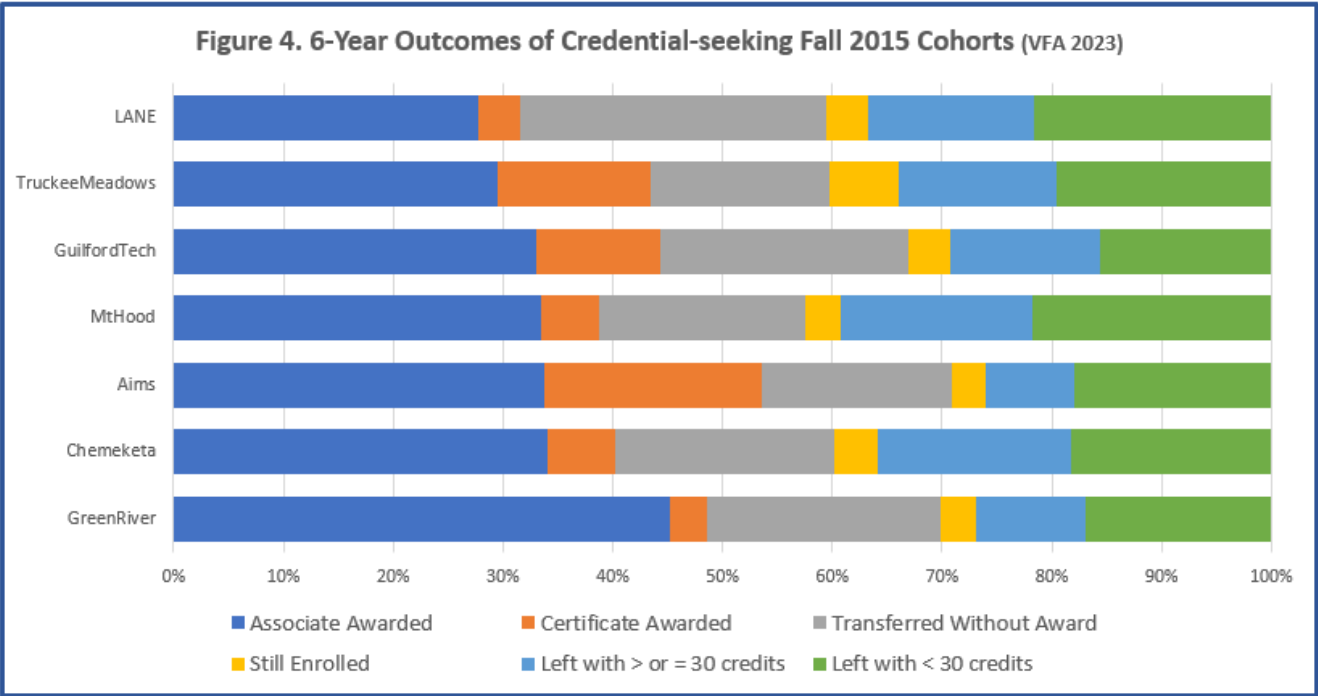


As seen below in Figure 2, the range for completions within 150% is from 41% to 19% with Lane ranking in the lower half. Contacting the colleges at the highest quartile such as Green River, Clark, and Rock Valley for insights and strategies could be highly beneficial. In contrast in Figure 3, students transferring to a 4 year institution, Lane is ranked as second with 19%. The range for transfers is from 21% to 7%.





Utilizing the Voluntary Framework of Accountability (VFA) data collection for 2023, Figure 4 and Table 4 show the 6-year outcomes of credential-seeking students in the Fall 2015 cohort. Only 7 of our 14 selected comparison institutions are included below due to individual school participation in VFA. Figure 4 reveals, Lane at close to a 60% success rate with the Fall cohort in alignment with Chemeketa, Mt Hood and Truckee Meadows, however lagging behind Green River and Aims, the two institution achieving success with 70% of the Fall cohort.



Institutions	Cohort	Associate (Transfer)	Associate (No Transfer)	Certificate (Transfer)	Certificate (No Transfer)	No Award (Transfer)	Still Enrolled	Left with > or = 30 credits	Left with < 30 credits
Aims	917	18.6%	15.2%	6.3%	13.4%	17.4%	3.1%	8.0%	18.0%
GreenRiver	1,186	24.5%	18.4%	1.1%	2.1%	20.2%	3.1%	9.4%	16.1%
TruckeeMeadows	1,532	17.2%	12.3%	4.4%	9.5%	16.3%	6.3%	14.4%	19.6%
LANE	1,558	14.6%	13.1%	0.4%	3.4%	28.0%	3.8%	15.1%	21.6%
MtHood	1,584	16.9%	16.5%	0.9%	4.4%	18.9%	3.2%	17.4%	21.8%
GuilfordTech	1,997	15.1%	17.9%	2.1%	9.2%	22.7%	3.8%	13.6%	15.7%
Chemeketa	2,099	21.1%	13.0%	1.3%	4.8%	20.0%	4.0%	17.6%	18.2%

## NOTES FOR SUMMARY/CONCLUSION

With the steady drive towards a student-outcome orientation, Lane has engaged with initiatives from Achieving the Dream, Guided Pathways and ACCRO consulting to help reveal and develop critical capacity to analyze and use institutional data.

Lane has utilized regional comparator data across their Mission Fulfillment Indicator Scorecards and is adding these national institutions into those peer comparisons as applicable. Looking beyond our regional peer institutions can provide aspirational goal and the opportunity to identify specific innovative practices at other institutions that can accelerate improvements in student outcomes.

Lane provides data annually through the portfolio review process and disaggregated data at the program, department and college level during academic program review and at the 3-year follow-up. Annually, the guided pathways publicly available dashboards are updated.

Lane still needs to ask questions like:

How do colleges dramatically increase second year retention, completion and transfer rates?

What can be done to fully engage faculty in efforts to improve student learning and engagement?

What can be done to close gaps in success among different groups of students?