First-Generation Students and Retention at the University of Dayton

Michela A. Buccini
University of Dayton, stander@udayton.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://ecommons.udayton.edu/stander_posters

Recommended Citation
http://ecommons.udayton.edu/stander_posters/33

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Stander Symposium at eCommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Stander Symposium Posters by an authorized administrator of eCommons. For more information, please contact frice1@udayton.edu, mschlangen1@udayton.edu.
First Generation College Students and Retention at the University of Dayton

Michela A. Buccini
Advisor: Dr. Molly A. Schaller

Literature on FGCS and Retention

- FGCS in a 4 year institution are twice as likely to drop out after their first year compared to non-FGCS
- Many FGCS also come from families of lower SES
- FGCS do not usually feel support from family and friends who did not attend college
- FGCS enter into lower college with lower aspirations than non FGCS

"To me, quitting was not an option. People have to make me quit things."
-Sophie

Results

- All felt supported by their family.
- Many of the students struggled their first year
- Many of the students did not quit because they knew they needed a college degree for their career
- Students want support from UD but do not want to be othered.

"Support is helpful but it is not like you have a disability (being a FGCS)"
-Monica

Methodology

- E-mail was sent to 338 sophomore and up FGCS at UD
- These students indicated on their FAFSA they are FGCS
- One-to-One Interviews

Participants

- 6 Students
  - 5 seniors, 1 junior
  - 2 women, 4 men
- First in their family to attend a four-year institution
  - 2 FG to the United States
  - SES: Low-Lower Middleclass

"...my parents have worked so hard to put us through private grade school, private high school, and now college. And turning away from that would just be a slap in the face”
- Quinn

Recommendations

- Section for FGCS on Virtual Orientation that tells FGCS about resources that could be helpful on campus.
- Have point people in Financial Aid, OMA, and the Office of Student Success to mentor/provide assistance to FGCS.
- Gathering/Dinner for FGCS during New Student Orientation