

# ***PTC Administrative Leadership Team Says...***

*(Achieving the Dream focus group at Pulaski Technical College on January 9, 2008.*

*ALT opinions of the knowledge successful students have and the strategies successful students use are on the PTC Achieving the Dream web site.)*

## **Common barriers to student persistence and success are (in rank order):**

1. PTC procedures are not user-friendly.
2. Financial (past mistakes, budgeting, planning).
3. Transportation.
4. Inadequate marketing of PTC services.
5. Poor communication skills.
6. Academically unprepared.
7. Lack of study skills.
8. Poor time management skills.
9. Personal crises (family responsibilities).
10. No clear-cut goals.
11. Lack of self-esteem, self-worth.
12. Poor reading skills.
13. Lack of college knowledge.
14. Poor interpersonal and social skills.
15. Lack of computer skills.
16. PTC instructional methodology.



## **Pulaski Tech provides effective support to students by providing (in rank order):**

1. SOAR, admissions process.
2. College Seminar, TRIO, Single Parent Scholarship, Career Pathways.
3. Career Pathways, adequate parking, multiple locations, online classes.
4. Student email in place, closed circuit TV, ALT.
5. Speech and essay contests, required speech class.
6. SOAR, TRIO, Career Pathways, First Year Experience, College Seminar, recruitment, enrollment coordinator, bridge program.
7. College Seminar, support services, Learning Assistance Center, tutors.
8. College Seminar.
9. TRIO, Career Pathways, counseling, faculty.
10. College Seminar, TRIO, Career Pathways, career readiness certificates.
11. Counseling, TRIO, Pathways.
12. Reading Task Force.
13. SOAR, Pathways, First Year Experience, recruitment, enrollment coordinator.
14. Business etiquette dinner and other events, Student Life and Leadership.
15. Online tutorials, open labs, College Seminar.
16. Title III smart classrooms, online orientation available.

## **Pulaski Tech can improve student persistence and success by offering (in rank order):**

1. Simplified and targeted information incorporated in every syllabus, increased staff, a portal, and less duplication in forms.
2. Distribute funds incrementally, provide workshops, promote and connect to community resources.
3. Market bus passes, purchase college busses.
4. Require student email usage, improve flow of information to adjuncts, improve marketing during registration/orientation, fix phone system, improve communications among departments, standardize information.
5. Enforce writing across the curriculum, use wider range of technology (podcasts, etc.), give more public speaking opportunities.
6. Reach high school counselors, add computer skills assessment, require college success course, offer 8 week classes, mandate consecutive developmental classes, offer a bridge program, career readiness certificate.
7. Embed study skills in curriculum, require college seminar.
8. Provide calendar, develop tips for publication.
9. Offer personal/social counseling, faculty development, academic coaches, first-year experience office.
10. Career planning center.
11. More recognition programs, faculty development.
12. Enforce reading task force recommendations.
13. Start grades 6-12 with programs and college planning, include families in orientation, bridge and mentoring programs, improve advising.
14. Support groups, enhance Student Life Office.
15. Pre-assess skill levels and require concepts course.
16. Provide instructors with more instructional options, faculty professional development, require online course orientation.