Nuts & Bolts

Problem Solving

By Michelle Griggs & Tracey Williams

Project Succeed
Making the Commitment to Succeed

Highland Community College
Introduction

Michelle D. Griggs

• Began in Higher Education as the Director of Multicultural Affairs at Greenville College, Greenville IL. 2005

• Shifted to Rockford University as the Director of the Kobe-Regent’s Center for Global Education in Rockford, IL., 2008

• Currently is the Academic Retention Coordinator for Project Succeed TRiO Program
In 2009, my title and role in the Success Center evolved to Student Retention Specialist due to working more one-on-one with students. Because of my role with students I was asked to coordinate and manage the Success Center Peer Mentor Program.

- Began Highland in 1996 as Secretary to Transfer Coordinator and Academic Advisors.
- Accepted position in the Success Center in 2002 as Secretary to Dean of Arts, Science and Learning.
- In 2009, my title and role in the Success Center evolved to Student Retention Specialist due to working more one-on-one with students. Because of my role with students I was asked to coordinate and manage the Success Center Peer Mentor Program.
BLANK IT!
Can you name the missing word shared between these Movies & TV shows?

Spin ____ City_____
Sin _____ City_____ 

I ____Dream_____ of Jeannie
Requiem for a ___Dream____
ICE BREAKER

BLANK IT!
Can you name the missing word shared between these Movies & TV shows?

The Twilight ___ Zone____
Green ___ Zone____
___Ghost___ Whisper
The ___Ghost___ Writer
The Addams ___ Family___
The ___Family___ Man
Are You Afraid of the ___Dark___?
The ___Dark___ of kNight
BLANK IT!
Can you name the missing word shared between these Movies & TV shows?

- ___Major___ Dad
- ___Major___ League
- Dancing With the Stars
- Dirty ___Dancing___
- ___Law___ and Order
- Above the ____Law____
- ___Star___ Trek
- ___Star___ Wars
Project Succeed TRiO

Peer Mentor Program

What we do... Encourage, Empower, and Inspire!

• The Project Succeed program has been on Highland’s campus for over 25 years.

• We assist and guide those who are not prepared for what is expected of them; returning to school after being out for several years; poor preparation in writing and math; inadequate study skills, anxiety and lack of confidence. A student is preparing to transfer to four-year institutions.

• Our staff works with all students on an individual basis enabling them to succeed.
In 2010, Highland’s Accreditation (HLC/AQIP) Strategic Planning Committee that I participate on chose a specific student population as the college’s action item.

- The Fall 2010 semester, The Success Center formed a Peer Mentor Program with temporary funding through a Success Center Grant.
  - The pilot Peer Mentor Program focused on mentoring Highland’s Men’s Basketball Team.
  - After its success, expansion to all athletes the following fall semester was needed, then Adult Learners the following year, now the program is open to all Highland students.
The Recruitment Process

1. Classroom Visits
2. Referrals (faculty & Student)
3. Word of Mouth

Making the Commitment to Succeed

1. Application
2. Acceptance into the program
3. Training – 8hrs/semester
The Recruitment Process

1. Faculty
2. Academic Advisors
3. Former Mentors/Mentees
4. Quick Start

- Application
- Acceptance into the program/Handbook
- Training w/ Project Succeed Peer Mentors – 8hrs/ semester
8 Modules –

1. Becoming a Leader of Character
2. Interpersonal Skills
3. Community Building
4. Strategic Planning
5. Effective Organizational Meetings
6. Event Success - Planning Publicity
7. Conflict Resolution
8. Roles and Transitions
• Monthly Support Plan Updates
• Academic Coaching Appointments (1st Semester Only - New Program Participants)
• Early Alerts - (Success Center)
• 4, 8, (mid-term) and 12 Week Progress Checks
• Tutor/Mentor tracking (Electronic Reports through Success Center)
• Tutor/Mentor Weekly Reports
• One on One meetings with participants and mentors
• Survey at the beginning and end of each semester
• Initial Academic Plan with Student Retention Specialist

• Peer Mentor Weekly Reports

• Early Alert Checks

• Mid-term – DUFI Check

• One-on-One meetings with Peer Mentors and Mentees (need based)

• Pre and post surveys created with Institutional Research Director
Future Goals for our Programs

- Increase recruitment efforts for Student’s diagnosed with disability as Peer Mentors.
- Seek innovative ways to promote our Peer Mentor Programs campus-wide.
- Collaborate with local High Schools in creating a High School Peer Mentor Program, which transitions these mentors to Highland Peer Mentor Programs.
- Continuous Improvement on Data Collection.
BLANK IT!
Can you name the missing word shared between these Movies & TV shows?

- Double__ Dare
- Body __Double__
- __Red___ Dwarf
- The Thin __Red____ Line
- All My ___Children____
- ___Children__ of Men
- The Amazing __Race____
- __Race___ to Witch Mountain
BLANK IT!
Can you name the missing word shared between these Movies & TV shows?

Necessity is the ___Mother___ of invention

Don’t throw the ___Baby___ out with the bathwater

You cannot make a silk ___Purse___ out of a sow’s ear

Good ___Fences___ make good neighbors

A ___Rolling___ stone gathers no moss

Laugh, and ___World___ laugh with you; weep and you weep alone.
Questions