Achieving the Dream Core and Data Teams
The ATD Core Team is integrated with the Student Success Committee. View ATD team membership and updates on our ATD website: www.wlac.edu/studentsuccess/atd.

Three Main Priorities
After being presented with the Data Team’s findings and extensive discussion, the Core Team identified the following priorities/goals for the college:

1. Increasing the number of West students who successfully complete the math sequence from Math 112 through Math 125 within four years.
2. Increasing the number of West students who successfully complete the English sequence from English 21 through English 101 within three years.
3. Increasing the number of West students obtaining a degree and obtaining a certificate.

Please visit our Achieving the Dream discussion blog at www.westatd.edublogs.org to contribute and recommend effective strategies for addressing the college priorities.

The ATD Team will bring these 3 priorities to ATD’s D.R.E.A.M. Conference and begin to identify intervention strategies to address them.

In developing the priorities, the ATD Data Team looked at various data sources (including student demographics and outcomes, student success metrics, the cause-and-effect Fishbone Activity) and identified seven main problem areas. The Data Team presented its findings to the Core Team on December 7, 2011. After discussion, the Core Team identified two additional problem areas. The following is a list of the nine problem areas:

1. West’s math foundation (basic skills) students have low successful course completion rates.
2. West’s English foundation (basic skills) students have low successful course completion rates.
3. West has statistically the lowest enrollment of full-time students in the district.
4. 60% of West students complete at least 30 units in 6 years.
5. 57% of West students persist from fall to fall.
6. 40% of West students obtain a degree/certificate/transfer within 6 years.
7. Majority of West students are high school graduates and identify English as their primary language but only 23% assess in college level English and 2% in college level math.

8. African American students have lower success rates in Math and English. (Core Team addition)

9. West has a large percentage of adjunct faculty. (Core Team addition)

The Core Team selected the following problem areas to prioritize and develop into goals:

1. West’s math foundation (basic skills) students have low successful course completion rates.

2. West’s English foundation (basic skills) students have low successful course completion rates.

3. 40% of West students obtain a degree/certificate/transfer within 6 years.

Data Sources

- Quantitative Data
  - Student demographics – who are West’s students?
  - Student access – high school API data; assessment and placement data
  - Student outcomes – successful course completion rates, persistence, graduation, transfer
  - Equity data at all levels

- Qualitative Data
  - Expanding West’s Readiness Assessment using SurveyMonkey sent to all faculty and staff
  - Policy and Procedure Analysis
  - Cause and Effect Analysis (using fishbone diagram discussions)
  - Alignment of ATD goals with various college master plan goals
  - Focus Groups – goal is to obtain student perspective to inform the development of strategies to address the priorities the Core and Data Teams select
Broad Engagement

The ATD Core Team is engaged in discussions to generate broad campus engagement in ATD and developed a list of 16 activities. After discussion, the Core Team identified the following activities:

1. Make sure ATD is a standing agenda item in all related meetings including division and council meetings.
2. Conduct faculty-student dialogues.  
3. Develop and distribute monthly ATD newsletter.
4. Plan and organize professional development activities.
5. Create a structure for team members to talk with faculty and staff members one-on-one about ATD especially those who missed the ATD kickoff at the Leadership Retreat.
6. Break down data by divisions and share at division meetings.

The Core Team is developing a timeline for each activity.

Focus Groups

Members of the ATD Core and Data Teams participated in an all-day meeting on January 24 with the ATD Data Coach, Kriesta Watson, to develop a plan for conducting focus groups. The group developed a list of questions, identified interested facilitators (moderators and note-takers), and constructed a timeline for conducting three focus groups before the D.R.E.A.M. Conference. The Core Team Co-Chairs conducted trainings for the focus group facilitators on January 30 and February 6. The first focus group was conducted on January 31 with students in the Umoja Bridge Program, and two more focus groups were held on February 8 with ESL 8 students. The focus groups will provide the Core and Data Teams qualitative data about the student perspective at West, which will be an additional data source for identifying strategies to address the college priorities.

Upcoming Focus Groups:

- Students from math course(s)
- Online students
- Athletes
- Students from computer science course(s)
- Students from English course(s)
- Students from science course(s)
• Students from behavioral/social science course(s)
• General population students
• Faculty

Next Steps for Spring 2012
• Generating broad engagement
• Identifying the Strategies to address each Priority – attempt to align the Strategies with activities already included in the various master plans of the college
• Developing the Implementation Plan
• Continuing to conduct focus groups and analyzing the data derived from the discussions
• Attending ATD’s D.R.E.A.M. Conference (February 28 – March 2, 2012)