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  - a. Click on the "log-in link" to connect to the live, on-line web portion
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- 1. <u>Speaker Handouts</u> "Unprepared Students: Proven Methods to Ensure First Year Success" handouts.
- 2. <u>Video CD Discount</u> This webinar will be recorded for your future use. You may purchase your own copy for just \$99 (versus the \$199 regular price). To reserve your Video CD, please complete the attached order form and return it to Higher Ed Hero or call us toll free at 800-964-6033. Please note: It is a violation of copyright laws to record the program.

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#### **Interactive Question and Answer Period During the 60-Minute Program**

- The question and answer period of the conference will be interactive. We have scheduled the last 15 minutes of the program for this part of the session.
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Again, welcome and thank you for your enrollment. If you have any questions, please contact us at 800-964-6033.

Sincerely,

Kyle Newman

Webinar Manager

Hyl Russian

# Preparing the Unprepared Strategies for Promoting New Student Success

Joe Cuseo
Professor Emeritus-Marymount College
Higher Ed Hero Webinar
June 3, 2010

## Your Presenter

#### Dr. Joseph Cuseo

- Professor Emeritus of psychology at Marymount College in California
- Dr. Cuseo has delivered over 100 campus workshops and conference presentation, and authored numerous articles and chapters on faculty development, student retention, and the first-year experience, including textbook Thriving in College and Beyond: Research-Based Strategies for Academic Success & Personal Development. More writing projects in 2010 include First-year topics.
- Joe is a columnist for a bimonthly newsletter published by the National Resource Center for The First-Year Experience & Students in Transition, and has received the Resource Center's "outstanding first-year advocate award." He also is a 14-time recipient of the "faculty member of the year award" on Marymount's campus.
- For more than 25 years he directed the first-year seminar, a required course for new students.

# New Student Transition & Orientation

### New-Student Transition & Orientation

## Transitional Support

- During the summer proceeding matriculation
- Summer bridge/transition programs

#### New Student Orientation

- Introduces Students to People
- Peer Role Models & Faculty (vs. information & buildings)

### New Student Transition & Orientation

#### Convocation

- Induction ceremony
- Welcome new students and their families to campus

### Placement testing

- Diagnose Academic Preparedness
- Place students in first-term courses that provide moderate challenge

# The First Year Curriculum

## The First-Year Curriculum

## • First Year Seminar/Experience Course

- Part of new student curriculum
- Introduction to college
- How to make the most of the college experience

## Co-registration of block courses

- During the first term
- Allows students to develop learning communities

## The First Year Curriculum

- Small class size for skill building courses
  - Reading
  - Writing
  - Math
- Prerequisite or "Stepping Stone Courses"
  - Inserted into the curriculum
  - Help prepare students for tougher courses

# First Year Instruction(Pedagogy)

# First-Year Instruction(Pedagogy)

- Minimize the number of first-year courses taught by
  - Graduate Assistants
  - Part time/adjunct faculty
- Who SHOULD teach first-year courses
  - Effective, student centered instructors
  - Try to "front-load" first-year courses with the best teachers

# First Year Instruction(Pedagogy)

- A successful new-faculty orientation program will include
  - Information on engaging pedagogy
  - Characteristics and needs of first year students
- Ongoing faculty development-provide sustained instructional support for faculty
- Effective teaching
  - Evaluated rigorously and weighed heavily
  - Important in deciding on faculty retention, advancement and retention

# Academic Support Services

# Academic Support Services

- Early-warning/early-alert system
  - Allows students to receive feed back on performance and progress before midterm
  - Opens the door for early corrective action
- Red-flag system
  - Identify students who show signs of leaving
  - Connect with them to avoid attrition
- Peer tutoring available and accessible to firstyear students
- Supplemental instruction for "high-risk" or "bottleneck" courses

# Academic Advisement

## Academic Advisement

#### First Year Students

- SHOULD NOT-self advise
- SHOULD- consult with an academic advisor
  - When registering courses
  - When adding courses
  - When dropping courses

#### Effective advisors

- Should be targeted to work with first-year students
- Should especially be targeted for undecided students

## Academic Advisement

- Advisor Orientation and Development Program
- Evaluation of first-year advisors and firstyear advising programs
- Recognition of high quality academic advising

# Student Development Services: The Co-Curriculum

# Student Development Services: The Co-Curriculum

- Encourage student involvement in cocurricular experiences
  - Incentives
  - Recognition
- Meaningful volunteer & service-learning experiences
- Leadership development opportunities available to first-year students

# Student Development Services: The Co-Curriculum

- First-year residential programs
  - Create a "living-learning" environment
  - Integrating academic experiences with residential life
- Publically recognizing first-year student achievements with end-of-the-year ceremony

# First-Year Assessment

## First-Year Assessment

- Student satisfaction/engagement surveys
- Qualitative Research
  - Conducted with first-year students
  - Assess
    - Needs and perceptions
- Assessment of first-year attrition patterns
  - How many are leaving
  - Which are leaving
  - When they're leaving
  - Why they're leaving

# <u>Timeline</u> for First-Year Retention Initiatives

## Proactive 1

- 1. Summer Transition/Summer Bridge Program
- 2. New-Student Orientation & Convocation
- 3. Extended-Orientation Course(New-Student Seminar) (Student-Success Course)
- 4. Student-Entry Assessment & First-Term Course Placement
- 5. Administration of Assessment Instruments Designed to Identify At-Risk Students
- 6. Early-Alert/Early-Warning System (e.g., absenteeism reports during first 4 weeks of term)

# <u>Timeline</u> for First-Year Retention Initiatives

- 7. Midterm-Grade Reports (e.g., at midpoint of the term)
- 8. "Red Flag" Procedures (e.g., failure to pre-register or renew financial aid)
- 9. Exit Interviews/Surveys (administered during the process of withdrawal)
- 10. End-of-First-Year Student Satisfaction and/or Student Engagement Surveys
- 11. Already-Withdrawn/Departed-Student Surveys (conducted after withdrawal)
- 12. Re-recruitment of Withdrawn Students: Converting "Dropouts" into "Stop-Outs"



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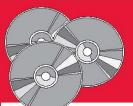
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#### "Unprepared Students: Proven Methods to Ensure First Year Success"

June 3, 2010 – 1:00 PM ET

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Sincerely,

Kyle Newman

Conference Manager

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