# Uniform Recruitment and Retention Strategy (URRS) Report Summary 

## 2009-2010

## Blinn College

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# Recruitment Strategy <br> Showease Day <br> (Preview Days) 

## HISTORY OF SHOWCASE DAY

In response to the activities hosted by competing schools, Blinn College organized its first annual Showcase Day on Tuesday, Feb. 12 ${ }^{\text {th }}$, 2008. Designed as a hands-on recruiting tool for the entire Blinn College system, Showcase Day gave students and their parents the opportunity to experience Blinn College firsthand in a friendly and exciting environment. After a welcoming speech from the Blinn College President, students and parents viewed presentations from Financial Aid, Enrollment Services, Counseling, Admissions, and Housing. Following these presentations, the guests were invited to ask any questions they might have about the various aspects the admission, financial aid, and registration processes at Blinn. Afterwards, the students and parents were lead on a campus tour and given the opportunity to meet with academic advisors. To complete the Blinn College experience, participants sat through a mock-lecture delivered by staff members who volunteered to teach. This not only gave students the chance to experience a college course at Blinn, but it allowed faculty members to promote their programs to prospective students.

Over 5,000 invitations were sent out via standard and electronic mail to all student contacts in the Hobson's database and each service area high school. At the same time, advertisements and registration information was placed on the Blinn College homepage and Recruiting Department link. After heavy promotion, a total of 106 students and 424 parents from 69 high schools showed up for the event, which was a figure well above the expected attendance. The event was a resounding success, receiving rave reviews from numerous guests and Blinn College faculty and staff. The results of the Showcase Day were positive, with $58 \%$ of the 106 students that attended the event actually enrolling at Blinn in the fall 2008 semester. This figure, although excellent, rose as the program continued into its second year. Based on the overwhelmingly positive response from students, parents, and high school counselors, the Showcase Day program was expanded to include multiple days on both the Brenham and Bryan campuses in 2009.

The 2009 Showcase Days followed a similar format as the first year, but with several strategic improvements. Most importantly, the theme of the 2009 Showcase Days was modeled after Guitar Hero, a video game that is popular with students. This theme not only made the event more enjoyable by providing a level of entertainment, but it also served as a launching point for an excellent marketing campaign that involved postcards, posters, emails, and flyers that reflected the youthful attitude and image of Guitar Hero. There was also more effort placed into the presentation of the event, which included assistance from the Blinn College Theatre Department. The stage design they helped provide added a "wow factor" that was missing from the original Showcase Day in 2008. In order to keep the program exciting and fresh, the Recruiting Department plans to update the theme each year in order to better reflect the interests and culture of the new class of prospective students.

The improvements to the 2009 Showcase Day program increased student participation nearly six-fold when compared to 2008, with 603 students and 1,706 total guests in attendance. This increase was greater than expected, and very encouraging for the department. The implementation of these new programs greatly increased the degree to which prospective
students interacted with Blinn College during their college search, and as a result $89 \%$ of the students who participated in the 2009 Showcase Day event chose to enroll at Blinn College.

The 2010 Showcase Days were modeled after the popular social networking site Facebook. The results of the 2010 Showcase Day events prove that the events were highly effective as $90 \%$ of the students who participated in the preview day actually enrolled at Blinn College.

The Recruiting Department feels that the Showcase Day programs are playing a large role in this expected increase in enrollment.

Over the past three years, the Showcase Days have grown into the largest and most important recruiting tools for Blinn College. The exceptional growth of the Showcase Days over the two past years, coupled with the high rate of satisfaction expressed by the guests, and the high enrollment figures of those who attend are a testament to the program's relevance and effectiveness in the current higher education market.

In addition, the Blinn College Recruiting Department was invited to make a presentation about the Showcase Days at last year's TACRAO Conference in Lubbock, Texas. This reflects a desire by other institutions to learn more about the processes behind Showcase Days and how they might be able to emulate this type of event on their campuses.

## 2008 DATA

| Showcase Day 2008 | Participated | Enrolled <br> FALL 2008 | Enrolled <br> Spring 2009 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Brenham Campus <br> ONLY | African Americans | 23 | 13 | 10 |
|  | Hispanics | 14 | 10 | 8 |
|  | Caucasians | 69 | 38 | 34 |
|  | Other | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  | TOTAL | 103 | 61 | 52 |

2009 DATA

| Showcase Day 2009 | Participated | Enrolled <br> FALL 2009 | Enrolled <br> Spring 2010 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :--- | :---: |
| Brenham 2-10-09 | African Americans | 13 | 12 | 10 |
|  | Hispanics | 7 | 7 | 5 |
|  | Caucasians | 62 | 58 | 54 |
|  | Other | 2 | 2 | 1 |
|  | TOTAL | 84 | 79 | 70 |


| Show case Day 2009 | Participated | Enrolled <br> FALL 2009 | Enrolled <br> Spring 2010 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Brenham 3-26-09 | African Americans | 67 | 62 | 49 |
|  | Hispanics | 31 | 27 | 21 |
|  | Caucasians | 104 | 99 | 90 |
|  | Other | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  | TOTAL |  |  |  |


| Showcase Day 2009 | Participated | Enrolled <br> FALL 2009 | Enrolled <br> Spring 2010 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bryan 3-27-09 | African Americans | 8 | 8 | 3 |
|  | Hispanics | 22 | 18 | 15 |
|  | Caucasians | 107 | 102 | 88 |
|  | Other | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  | TOTAL | 137 | 128 | 106 |


| Showcase Day 2009 | Participated | Enrolled <br> FALL 2009 | Enrolled <br> Spring 2010 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bryan 4-17-09 | African Americans | 3 | 2 | 0 |
|  | Hispanics | 14 | 10 | 6 |
|  | Caucasians | 81 | 78 | 59 |
|  | Other | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  | TOTAL | 98 | 90 | 65 |


| Showcase Day 2009 | Participated | Enrolled <br> FALL 2010 | Enrolled <br> Spring 2011 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Brenham | 286 | 267 | 230 |
|  | Bryan | 235 | 218 | 171 |
|  | Total | 521 | 486 | 401 |




BLINN COLLEGE


## 2009 REGISTRATION




## 2010 DATA

| Show case Day 2010 |  | Participated | Enrolled <br> FALL 2010 | Enrolled <br> Spring 2011 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- |
| Brenham 2-9-10 | African Americans | 52 | 47 |  |
|  | Hispanics | 22 | 20 |  |
|  | Caucasians | 116 | 99 |  |
|  | Other | 0 | 0 |  |
|  | TOTAL | 190 | 166 |  |


| Showcase Day 2010 |  | Participated | Enrolled <br> FALL 2010 | Enrolled <br> Spring 2011 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| Brenham 4-17-10 | African Americans | 92 | 88 |  |
|  | Hispanics | 24 | 17 |  |
|  | Caucasians | 90 | 77 |  |
|  | Other | 11 | 10 |  |
|  | TOTAL | 217 | 192 |  |


| Show case Day 2010 |  | Participated | Enrolled <br> FALL 2010 | Enrolled <br> Spring 2011 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- |
| Bryan 3-26-10 | African Americans | 9 | 9 |  |
|  | Hispanics | 16 | 14 |  |
|  | Caucasians | 118 | 98 |  |
|  | Other | 0 | 0 |  |
|  |  | 143 | 121 |  |


| Showcase Day 2010 |  | Participated | Enrolled <br> FALL 2010 | Enrolled <br> Spring 2011 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- |
| Bryan 4-9-10 | African Americans | 18 | 15 |  |
|  | Hispanics | 18 | 16 |  |
|  | Caucasians | 132 | 122 |  |
|  | Other | 0 | 0 |  |
|  | TOTAL | 168 | 153 |  |


| Show case Day 2010 | Participated | Enrolled <br> FALL 2010 | Enrolled <br> Spring 2011 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- |
|  | Brenham | 407 | 358 |  |
|  | Bryan | 311 | 274 |  |
|  | Total | 718 | 632 |  |




## Register online at go.blinn.edu in December.

Presentations from Financial Aid, Housing, Admissions, and Student Activities will give participants a chance to learn all about life at Blinn College.

## Brenham Campus



## Bryan Campus

March 26, 2010
April 9, 2010 $\square$
REGISTER NOW
Done


[^0]


## 2010 EVALUATION METHOD

## 解 BLINN COLLEGE <br> Proven.

\section*{BLINN COLLEGE <br> Showcase Days Evaluation <br> | MARKING INSTRUCTIONS |
| :--- |
| - Use a No. 2 pencil only. |
| - Do not use ink, ballpoint, or felt tip pens. |
| - Make solid marks that fill the response completely. |
| - Erase cleanly any marks you wish to change. |
| - Make no stray marks on this form. |}


| DATE OF BIRTH |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MONTH | DAY | YEAR |
| Jan |  |  |
| Feb |  |  |
| Mar | $00^{0}$ | $0)(0$ |
| Apr | 1) 1 | 1 |
| May | 2) 2 | 2)(2) |
| June | 3) 3 | ) (3)(3) |
| July | 4 | (4)(4) |
| Aug | 5 |  |
| Sept | 6 |  |
| Oct | 7 | $7)^{(7)}$ |
| Nov |  | 8 |
| Dec | 4 |  |

I found out about this event from: (mark all answers that apply)

| Blinn website |
| :--- |
| Campus visit |
| Email |
| Flyer |
| Poster |
| Word of mouth |
| Other (please specify): |

$\qquad$
Please rate the following Showcase Day Activities: (1-Poor, 2-Fair, 3-Good, 4-Excellent)


The part of this event that I liked the best was: $\qquad$
The part of this event that I liked the least was: $\qquad$
Suggestions to improve future Showcase Days: $\qquad$
Comments:

Demographic Information:


Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness

## Showcase Days Evaluation Results

Brenham and Bryan

## Spring 2010

# Uniform Recruitment and Retention Strategy (URRS) Report Summary 

## 2009-2010

## Retention Strategy Advising

## URRS Report Summary - 2009-2010 Retention Strategy - Advising

## Fall 2009

The Advising Database is kept by the Academic Advising and Counseling Offices in Brenham and Bryan and the University Transfer Center in Bryan. The following numbers account for visits in these offices. The recording of students into this database started in Mid-March of 2009. The total visits recorded between March 12, 2009 and September 4, 2009 ( 6 months) totaled 13,239 (Brenham-1,933 and Bryan-11,306). Total unduplicated headcount of visits totaled $\mathbf{1 0 , 0 3 3}$ (Brenham-1,646 and Bryan-8,387). Total students in the database who also enrolled in Fall 2009 totaled 7,888 (Brenham-1,209; Bryan-6,634; Other-45 [these students were not tracked in the data below]). The following data represents course information at the end of Fall 2009 for students in the database.

The TSI Advising charts represent students who are and are not College Ready under Texas Success Initiative (TSI) rules. Students who are not College Ready are required to be advised. This does not include students who are placed in MATH0312 based on Blinn's pre-requisite requirements. These students are considered to be College Ready in Math.

Course Completion Target = Sixty-seven percent (67\%) was chosen as the course completion target due to the number of students enrolled part-time. Sixty-seven percent allows for one course to be dropped/failed (completion of 2 of 3 courses). It also allows for accurate accounting for students completing 4 of 6 courses (odd number of courses).

## Data Analysis - Students in the Advising Database

Students being advised on both the Brenham and Bryan campuses completed $67 \%$ of their courses with an A-C or P at almost equal percentages. In Brenham students who were required to be advised completed at $49 \%$ and in Bryan they completed at $48 \%$. In Brenham students who were not required to be advised completed at $71 \%$ and in Bryan they completed at $70 \%$.

The total percentage of students who were advised and completed $67 \%$ of their courses with an A-C or P was $61 \%$ in Brenham and $65 \%$ in Bryan. The students who were not in the Advising Database completed $67 \%$ of their courses with an A-C or P at a rate of $73 \%$ in Brenham and $71 \%$ in Bryan.

The total percentage of Underrepresented students who were advised and completed $67 \%$ of their courses with an A-C or P was $52 \%$ in Brenham and 57\% in Bryan.

The total percentage of First-Time/Full-Time students who were advised and completed $67 \%$ of their courses with an A-C or P was $52 \%$ in Brenham and $63 \%$ in Bryan.

## All Students Advised In the Advising Database

Advising Required $=$ Advising is required due to the student not being College Ready in all sections under the Texas Success Initiative (TSI). Advising Not Required = Advising is not required due to the student being College Ready in all sections under the Texas Success Initiative (TSI).

## All Students in Advising Database

\& Enrolled Fall 2009


Students completing 67\% of courses with an A-C or P


Students completing 67\% of courses
with an A-C or P


## All Students Advised from Underrepresented Populations

Underrepresented Population = African American, Hispanic, International, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Native Indian/Alaskan Native


## All Students Advised who were First Time/Full Time

First Time/Full Time $=$ First time at Blinn (first time in college \& first time transfers) and enrolled in 12 or more hours.


## URRS Report Summary - 2009-2010 Retention Strategy - Advising

## Spring 2010

The Advising Database is kept by the Academic Advising and Counseling Offices in Brenham and Bryan and the University Transfer Center in Bryan. The following numbers account for visits in these offices. The total visits recorded between September 7, 2009 and January 22, 2010 ( 5 months) totaled 10,265 (Brenham-1,595 and Bryan-8,670). Total unduplicated headcount of visits totaled 7,969 (Brenham-1,400 and Bryan-6,569). Total students in the database who also enrolled in Spring 2010 totaled 6,689 (Brenham-1,073; Bryan-5,506; Other-110 [these students were not tracked in the data below]). The following data represents course information at the end of Spring 2010 for students in the database.

The TSI Advising charts represent students who are and are not College Ready under Texas Success Initiative (TSI) rules. Students who are not College Ready are required to be advised. This does not include students who are placed in MATH0312 based on Blinn's pre-requisite requirements. These students are considered to be College Ready in Math.

Course Completion Target = Sixty-seven percent (67\%) was chosen as the course completion target due to the number of students enrolled part-time. Sixty-seven percent allows for one course to be dropped/failed (completion of 2 of 3 courses). It also allows for accurate accounting for students completing 4 of 6 courses (odd number of courses).

## Data Analysis - Students in the Advising Database

Students being advised on both the Brenham and Bryan campuses completed $67 \%$ of their courses with an A-C or P with similar percentages. In Brenham students who were required to be advised completed at $41 \%$ and in Bryan they completed at $45 \%$. In Brenham students who were not required to be advised completed at $65 \%$ and in Bryan they completed at $71 \%$.

The total percentage of students who were advised and completed $67 \%$ of their courses with an A-C or P was $54 \%$ in Brenham and $63 \%$ in Bryan. The students who were not in the Advising Database completed $67 \%$ of their courses with an A-C or P at a rate of $76 \%$ in Brenham and $72 \%$ in Bryan.

The total percentage of Underrepresented students who were advised and completed $67 \%$ of their courses with an A-C or P was $41 \%$ in Brenham and $55 \%$ in Bryan.

The total percentage of First-Time/Full-Time students who were advised and completed $67 \%$ of their courses with an A-C or P was $39 \%$ in Brenham and 52\% in Bryan.

## All Students Advised In the Advising Database

Advising Required $=$ Advising is required due to the student not being College Ready in all sections under the Texas Success Initiative (TSI). Advising Not Required = Advising is not required due to the student being College Ready in all sections under the Texas Success Initiative (TSI).

## All Students in Advising Database <br> \& Enrolled Spring 2010

Advising - Brenham
1,073


Students completing 67\% of courses with an A-C or P

Total
54\%

Students completing 67\% of courses with an A-C or $P$

Total
63\%

## All Students Advised from Underrepresented Populations

Underrepresented Population = African American, Hispanic, International, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Native Indian/Alaskan Native


## All Students Advised who were First Time/Full Time

First Time/Full Time $=$ First time at Blinn (first time in college \& first time transfers) and enrolled in 12 or more hours.



[^0]:    © Wecome to Facebook! ...

