

**Equity for All:** 

## An Action Research Process for Organizational Learning

## CAIR Conference November 2, 2006

Hannah Alford, Research Analyst Delia DuRoss, Reading Instructor Long Beach City College

## **Purpose of Presentation**

Two-Fold:Equity for All Project

Data Inquiry Process Promotes Organizational Learning

## Part 1: Equity for All

- Partnership with USC's Center for Urban Education
- Nine California community colleges participated
- Funded by the Lumina Foundation and Chancellor's Office
- Supported by the Academic Senate for CA Community Colleges

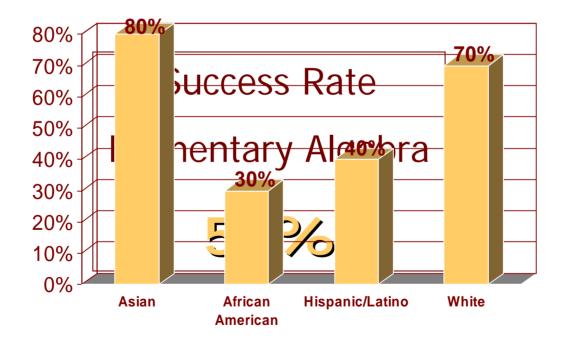
## **Purpose of Equity for All Project**

### Evidence Team

- Faculty
  - Administrators
- Counselors
  - Researchers
- Study equity in educational outcomes

## Educational Outcome Data and Equity

#### Common Educational Outcome Measure: Success in Course



**MOCK DATA** 

## Equity Scorecard and Four Perspectives

## Academic Pathways

Measures the extent to which underrepresented students fulfill their educational path/goal

Retention and Persistence

Measures the extent to which underrepresented students withdraw from programs and persist to the degree

## Equity Scorecard and Four Perspectives

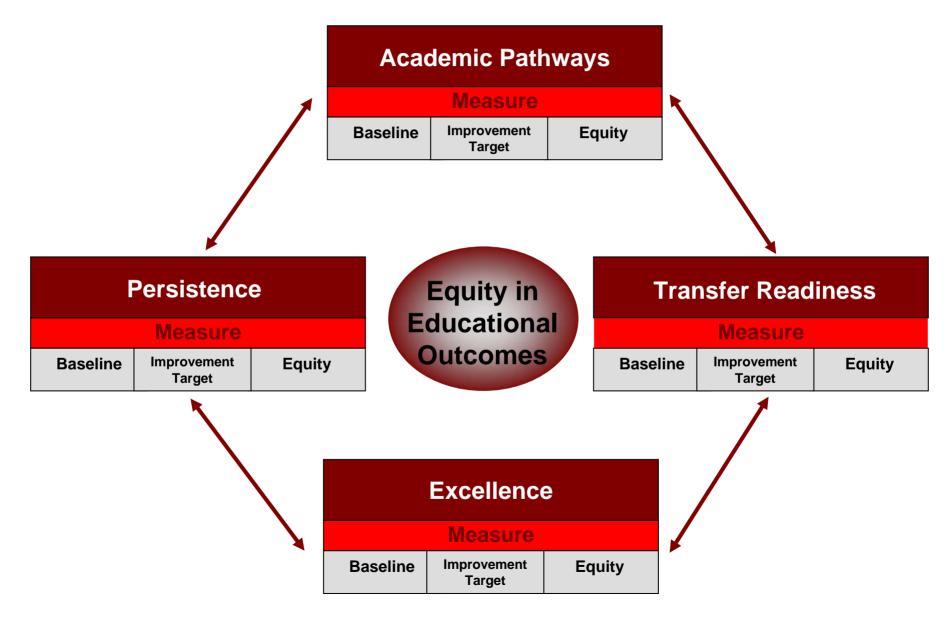
# Transfer Readiness

### Measures the extent to which underrepresented students are ready to transfer



Measures any gaps in highly competitive courses, majors, and programs

### **Equity Scorecard Framework**



## Identifying Equity Gaps: Measuring Equity

 Disaggregate (separate) educational outcome data by race and ethnicity



LBCC Students Who Earned an AA/AS Degree

## How is Equity Measured?

- Once the data is disaggregated or separated by race and ethnicity, calculate the percentage or share each group represents for the whole group
- For example....



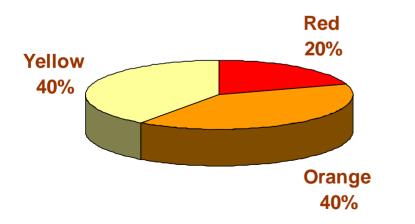
50%

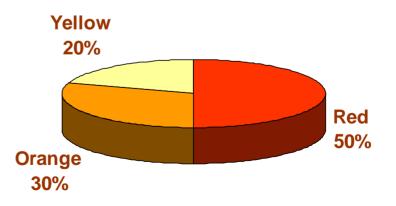
of students who graduated were **Red** 

## How is Equity Measured?

Compare the percentage the group represents to the reference group

Reference Group: Students Who Report an AA/AS Goal Indicator Group: Students Who Earned an AA/AS





## **Our Findings So Far**

### Academic Pathways:

Disproportionately fewer African-American students are successful in key English and Math courses required for graduation/transfer

### Retention and Persistence:

Disproportionately fewer African-American and Latino/a students are transferring to a 4-year institution

## **Our Findings So Far**

Transfer Readiness:

Many students who are "transfer-ready" do not transfer to a 4-year institution

Excellence:

Students who are qualified for the Honors program do not participate in the Honors program, especially Latino/a students

## **Findings and Student Equity Plan**

- Project worked hand-in-hand with student equity plan
- Initial findings were incorporated in the planning process/goals
- Equity Scorecard provided a clear way of tracking/making accountable

## Part 2: Data Inquiry Process and Organizational Learning

"To form relevant and effective ideas, we must first be acquainted with and take notice of *actual* conditions. Otherwise our ideals become vacuous or else filled with a content drawn from Utopia"

-John Dewey

## **Traditional Process of Data**





Evidence-Based Practices in the Classroom

Evidence-Based Decision Making

## **Traditional Process of Data**

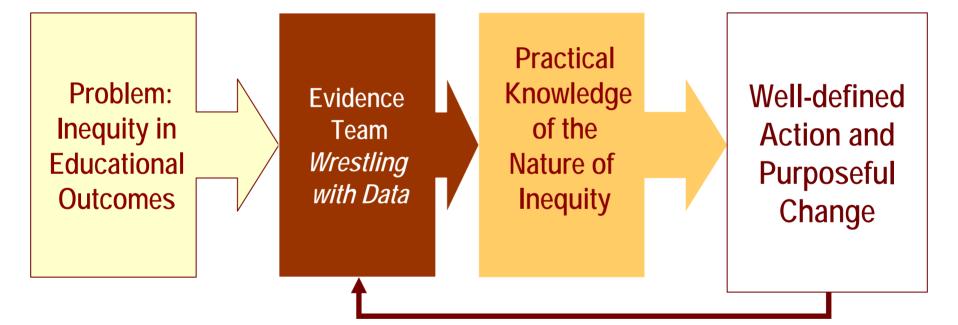


## **Traditional Process of Data**





## **Data Inquiry Process**



## **Data Inquiry Process**



Promotes Organizational Learning and Institutional Responsibility for Student Success

# Student-Focused

There might be a number of reasons why students are not succeeding in the college level math courses.

Many *students* come to the course under prepared in math. In addition, *students* often are juggling work and a family with school so it may be difficult for them to find time to study.

# Traditional

# Institutional Responsibility

There might be a number of reasons why students are not succeeding in the college level math courses...

Maybe *we* are not making aware of the resources like S.I. and tutoring. Maybe *we* need to reconsider the teaching strategies to closer match the student learning styles.

# Data Inquiry Model

## Example: Term-to-Term Persistence Data

#### How many first-time freshmen students return

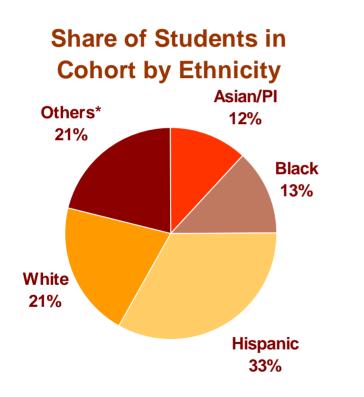
	Asian/PI	Black	Hispanic	White	Total*
First-time Freshmen in Fall 1999-2004	4,237	4,376	11,412	7,156	34,533
%	12%	13%	33%	21%	100%

- \*Includes Filipino, Native Am, Other, and Unknown reports of ethnicity
- Take out students who take only Police or Fire service courses; they are not traditional students

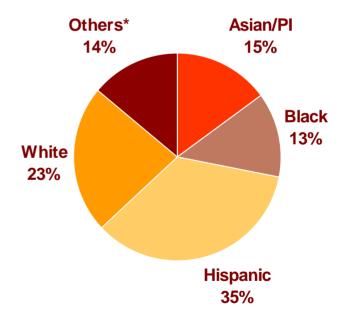
## **Fall-to-Spring Persistence**

	Asian/PI	Black	Hispanic	White	Total*
First-time Freshmen in Fall 1999-2004	4,237	4,376	11,412	7,156	34,533
Returned the Following Spring	3,043	2,584	7,068	4,602	20,319

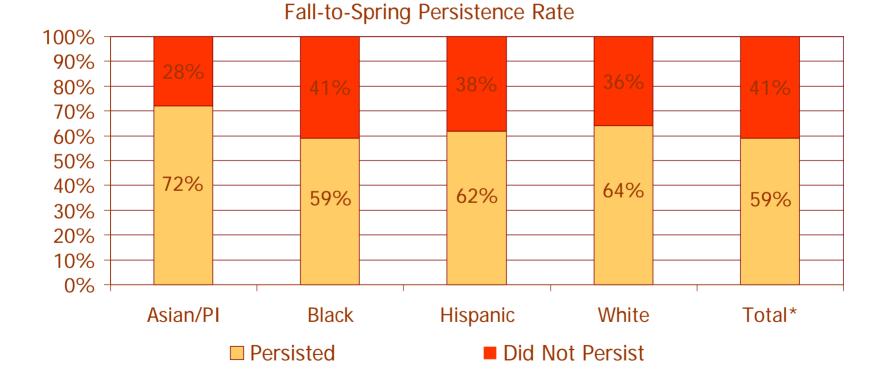
## **Fall-to-Spring Persistence**



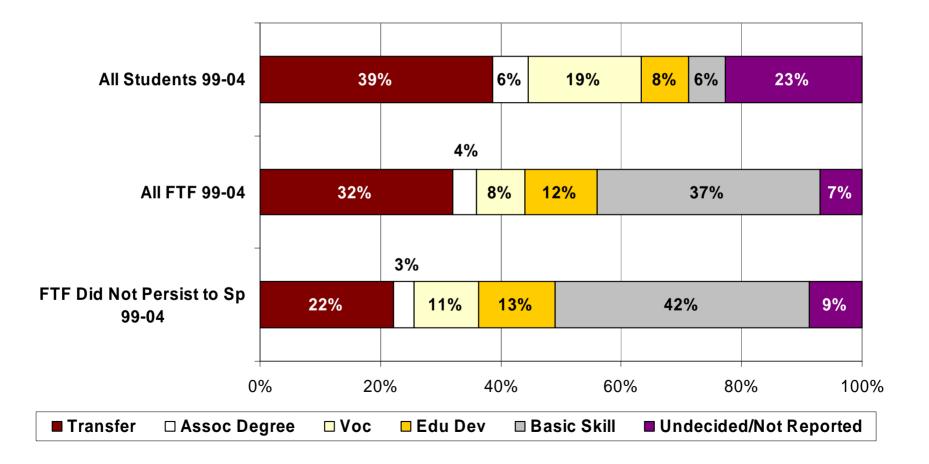
#### Share of Students Who Persist to Next Spring Term by Ethnicity



## **Fall-to-Spring Persistence**



## Ed Goal: Comparison Across Cohorts



## **Term-to-Term Persistence**



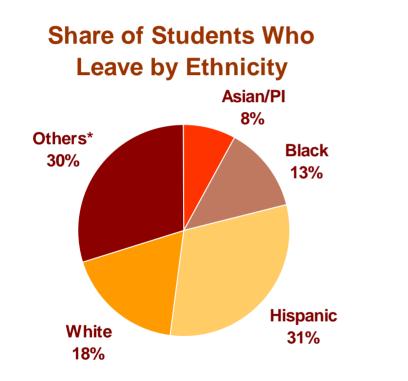
### Next Fall Term 41%

### Next Spring Term 59%

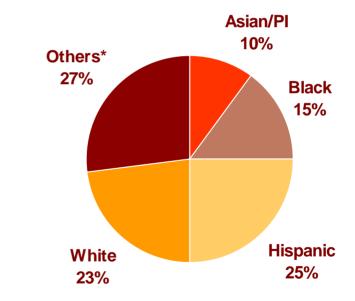
## Students Who Leave: Transfer Courses (1-99 Numbered Courses)

	Asian/PI	Black	Hispanic	White	Total*
Did Not Persist	1,194	1,792	4,344	2,554	14,214

## **Students Who Leave: Transfer Course Share**

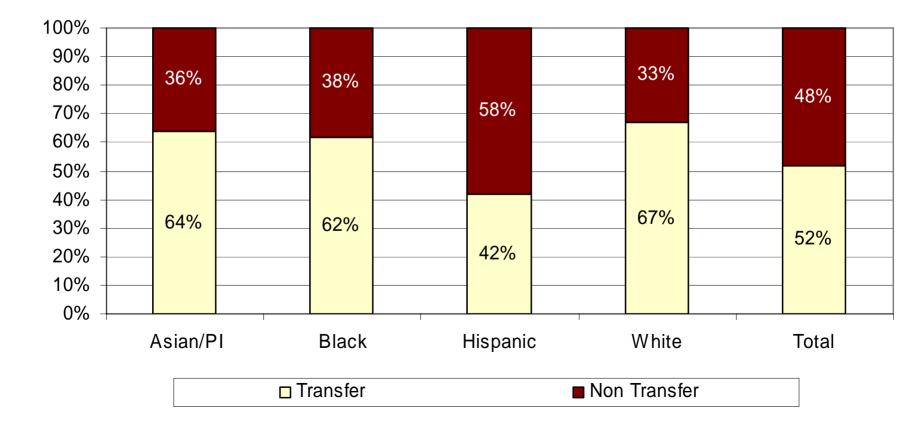


#### Share of Students Who Enrolled in Transfer Course by Ethnicity



## Students Who Leave: Transfer Courses (1-99 Numbered Courses)

#### Students Who Leave: Who Was Enrolled inTransfer Courses?



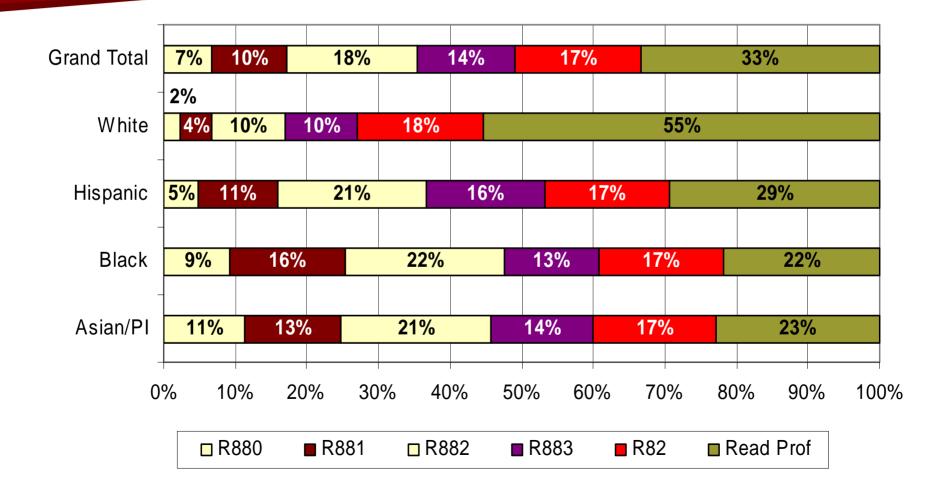
Students Who Leave: Transfer Courses and Reading Placement

- 7,326 enrolled in at least one transfer course
- 2,424 of the 7,326 students (33%) who did not persist to spring term took the assessment test for reading

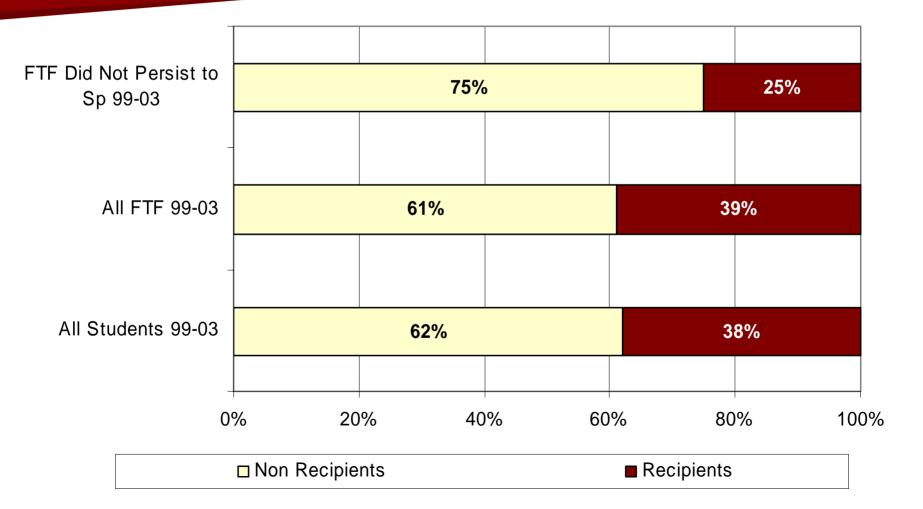
## Students Who Leave: Transfer Courses and Reading Placement

Reading Level	Asian/PI	Black	Hispanic	White	Total
R 880 (5 levels below)	37	45	37	13	162
R 881 (4 levels below)	44	79	88	24	254
R 882 (3 levels below)	69	108	163	58	445
R 883 (2 levels below)	47	64	129	56	330
R 82 (1 level below)	56	85	137	98	423
Reading Prof. Met	75	106	230	309	810
Total	328	487	784	558	2424

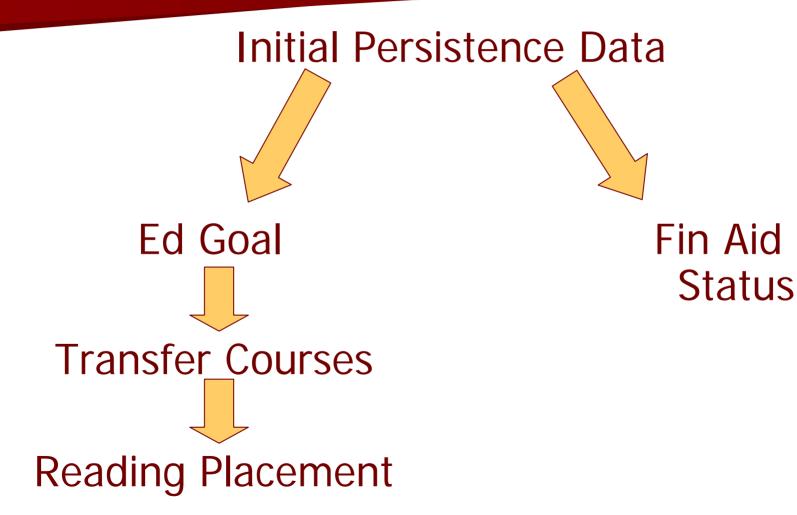
## Students Who Leave: Transfer Courses and Reading Placement



## Financial Aid Recipients: Comparison Across Cohorts



## **Data Inquiry Process**



## **Current Activity**

- Framework is incorporated in planning process
- Dissemination of data

Different groups on campus are already engaged in further data inquiry process (i.e., student interviews, surveys, etc.)

Selecting indicators and setting milestone goals to accomplish equity

## Faculty's Point of View: Delia DuRoss, Reading Instructor

- In what ways did your involvement in the Equity for All Evidence team differ from your service on other campus committees/project teams?
- Has your participation in the Equity for All process changed the way that you think about student outcomes or interact with your students?
- In what ways do you think the findings from the Equity for All process might inform your and your department's practices?

## **Thank You!**

Long Beach City College Office of Institutional Research http://iras.lbcc.edu

halford@lbcc.edu 562-938-4052

Center for Urban Education: www.usc.edu/cue