



The National Dialog on Student Retention

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Advising and Retaining At-Risk Students

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Why worry about at-risk students?

- ▶ Growing population
 - First generation students
 - Open enrollment policies
- ▶ High attrition rate among 1st year students
 - Approximately 50%

Who are these students?

- ▶ Ethnic minorities
- ▶ Low socioeconomic status
first generation college students
- ▶ Academically disadvantaged
 - High school drop outs
 - Require remedial coursework

Advising Strategies



Intrusive Advising

- ▶ **Deliberate intervention to enhance student motivation**
 - Intensive advising intervention
 - Increase the probability of student success
 - Facilitate informed decision making
- ▶ **Strategies to show interest and involvement with students**
 - Increase student motivation
 - Student perceives that school cares about them

Some thoughts...

- ▶ Research suggests that contact with a significant person within an institution of higher education is a crucial factor in a student's decision to remain in college

- (Heisserer & Parette, 2002)

Be that person...

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