How a community college successfully coexists within a university

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Introduction

Utah Valley University, a large, public open-enrollment university in Orem, Utah, has developed a unique educational mission of providing broad educational programming – from certificates to Master’s degrees.

In this presentation, we examine several different sources of institutional data to demonstrate the importance of the community college at UVU to students and stakeholders within the community and show how a community college can successfully coexist within a university.
Location & History of UVU

Institutional Evolution:

- 1941 Established as Central Utah Vocational School
- 1963 Utah Trade Technical Institute
- 1967 Utah Technical College of Provo
- 1987 Utah Valley Community College
- 1993 Utah Valley State College
- 2008 Utah Valley University
UVU’s Unique Educational Mission

**Engaged**
UVU engages its communities in mutually beneficial collaboration and emphasizes engaged learning

**Serious**
UVU fosters a culture of academic rigor and professional excellence

**Inclusive**
UVU provides opportunity for individuals from a wide variety of backgrounds & perspectives and meets regional educational needs

**Student Success**
UVU supports students in achieving their educational, professional, and personal goals

Explore our dynamic dashboard:  http://tinyurl.com/UVUUEMdashboard
It is important to measure what we value and value what we measure.
In 2011 we conducted a survey of 827 Utah residents to assess the importance and impact of UVU’s unique educational mission.

- More than 80% of survey respondents felt it was important for UVU to continue providing instruction at all of the academic levels.
Meet community needs and demands

UVU's Mission...

- 91% of survey respondents felt that it was important for UVU to continue serving the community college role within its service region.

- More than 75% of respondents felt UVU provided important career and job training in careers valuable to the job market.
2007-11 Fall enrollment data show significant differences between the UVU community college (CC) and university student populations:

- CC is 48% female while those in Bachelor’s programs are 39% female
- 29% of CC is over 25 years old while 45% of Bachelor’s are over 25 years old
Provide seamless education

UVU’s community college and university programs allow students the opportunity to “stack” credentials. Data from 2006-2012 suggest students are doing just that:

- Bachelor’s degree awardees with previous Associate’s from any institution experienced a 314 percentage increase
- Bachelor’s graduates who had an Associate’s from UVU increased by 790%
Data indicate that while university program offerings, student enrollments, and the number of graduates has grown significantly during the past 10 years, the community college mission has remained stable.

- UVU has maintained ~ 65 Associate’s degree programs
Dual mission success - enrollments

- Technical education programs have accounted for ~ 20% of enrollments
- Lower division has accounted for ~ 60% of enrollments
Dual mission success - completions

- Associate’s degrees, certificates and diplomas awarded in the past 10 years have been stable, while Bachelor’s awards have doubled
The UVU model

A University can effectively serve a wide range of educational needs.

“As we provide robust community college services in the context of an academically superb regional university, and do so on a scale adequate to our demographics, we will indeed have created a unique model for other institutions around the world to follow.”

-- UVU UEM White paper (2011)*

* Available at: http://www.uvu.edu/president/mission/pdfs/ACUEM_Whitepaper_II.pdf
Unique Educational Mission: recent initiatives

- Implementation of Structured Enrollment
- Established new Assistant Vice President for Community College
- New certificate programs implemented for 2013-14