Teaching at Boise State

Fall 2015
Boise State Students

- Knowing about our students can help you to support them
- Faculty play an integral role in student success
  - Faculty-Student Interactions are the single most important factor associated with college student success!
  - Choices you make as a teacher can positively impact student learning and persistence.

What percentage of Boise State undergraduates are traditional age (<21 years)?

1. 13%
2. 52%
3. 34%
4. 67%
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Undergraduate Students: Age Distribution

Average age of degree-seeking undergraduate = 25.2 yrs

Traditional aged students
The lives of our students

- Most students have outside-of-school commitments
  - ~51.3% work full-time while attending school
  - ~32.6% have responsibilities for children
- 12% are veterans
- 11% have a physical or learning disability
- Most students live off campus (Only 25.8% live on campus for at least a year)
Supporting Students

How can you use this information to support your students?

- Leverage student focus and dedication
- Facilitate communication between students
- Consider student schedules when structuring assignments and projects
- Direct students to help when they need it:
  - Disability Resource Center (DRC)
  - Health, Wellness, and Counseling
  - C.A.R.E team (to identify students of concern)
What percentage of Boise State students have at least 1 parent who has earned a bachelor’s degree?

1. 32%
2. 48%
3. 67%
4. 79%
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~4% of parents did not finish high school  
~15% of parents finished HS and did not attend any higher education
Students “new” to university culture

How can you help students who are new to university culture?

• Contribute to their sense of belonging
  • Learn student names and use them in class
  • Talk with students informally before and after class

• Recognize that things that seem “obvious” may not be…
  • How to read/interpret a syllabus, course catalog
  • Meaning of office hours
  • Appropriate expectations for communication
  • Amount of time necessary to adequately prepare for class, etc.
What percentage of students who first enrolled in 2006 graduated 6 years later (2012)?

1. 25%
2. 37%
3. 52%
4. 61%
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Pedagogical choices that help students

- Provide feedback early and often
- Keep attendance
  - Have a mechanism to contact students if they miss class
  - Use the Early Alert System (CARE)
- Celebrate student successes
- Adopt best practice pedagogies
- Keep expectations clear and high
Learn About other Supports for Students

- The Writing Center
- Undergraduate Research
  - McNair Scholars Program
- Trio Program
- Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities
- The Help Desk (The Zone)
• Your department’s Library Liaison can help you and your students find resources for your class content. To find your Library Liaison go to this link: http://library.boisestate.edu/about/liaisons.php
• The Albertsons Library Website is a great place for you and your students to find information relevant to your course. Find online resources at: http://library.boisestate.edu
Welcome to Boise State!

• Questions? Feel free to contact the Center for Teaching and Learning with any questions you have about creating a class that will support the learning of our student body.

• Website: ctl.boisestate.edu