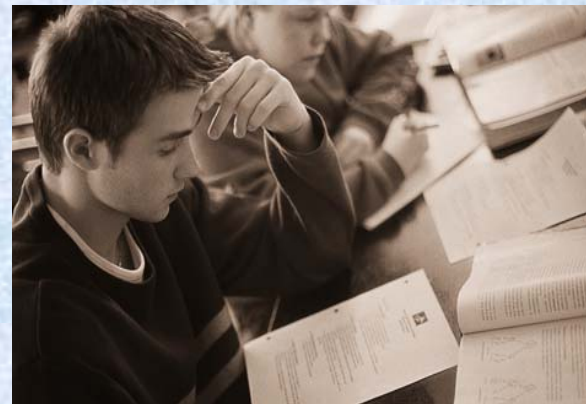


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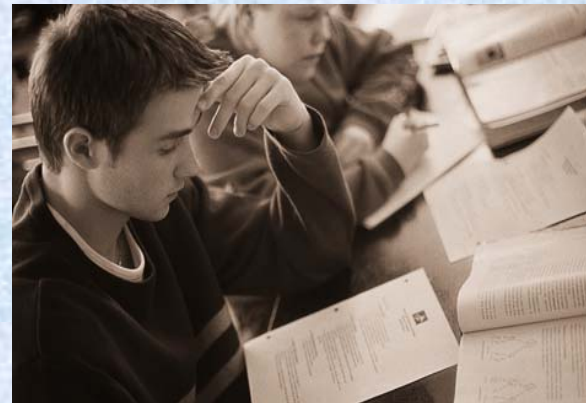
- **Three Education Initiative Efforts**
 - Diop Scholars Program
 - New Student Orientation and Guidebook
 - Freshmen Seminar



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- Focus
 - Interventions for first-time students to improve:
 - Course success rates
 - Persistence rates
 - Program completion rates



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- **Research Question**
 - Does participation in the Educational Initiative strategies improve student success?



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- **Planning Implications**

- Identify which strategies/interventions:
 - are most effective
 - need to be strengthened
 - need to be expanded



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Overview of Findings:

Students in the cohorts:

- Enrolled in more units
- Completed a greater percentage of units
- Achieved higher or comparable course success rates
- Earned higher or comparable GPA's
- Persisted at higher rates



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Freshmen Seminar Students

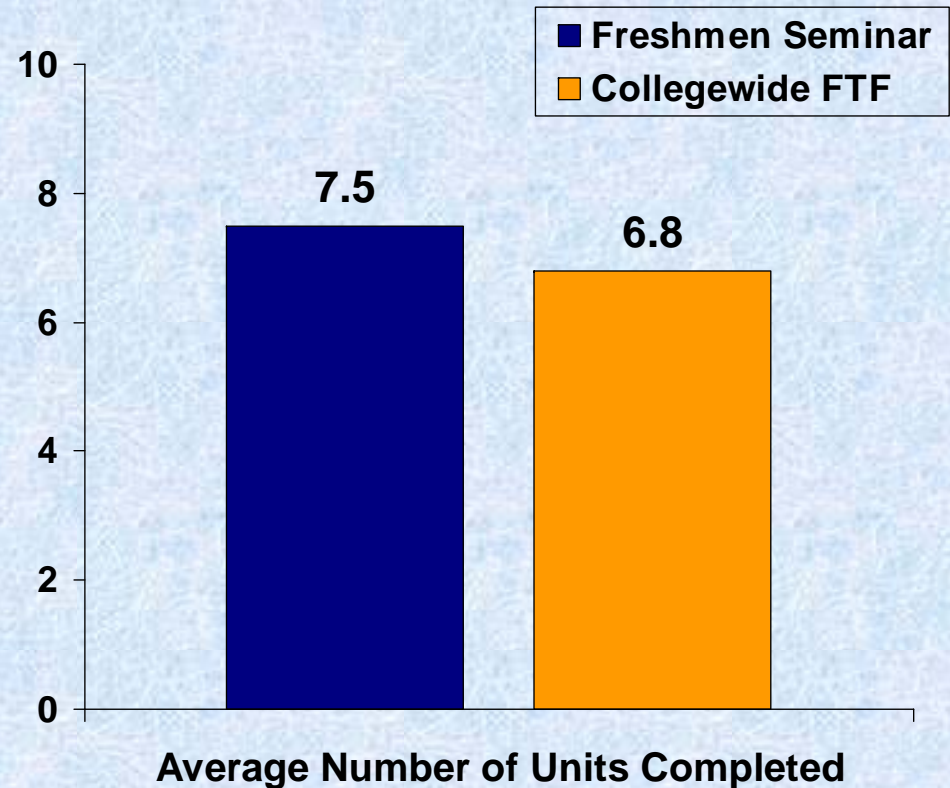
- High percentage of groups identified as "underperforming"
 - Males
 - First generation
 - African American
 - Latino



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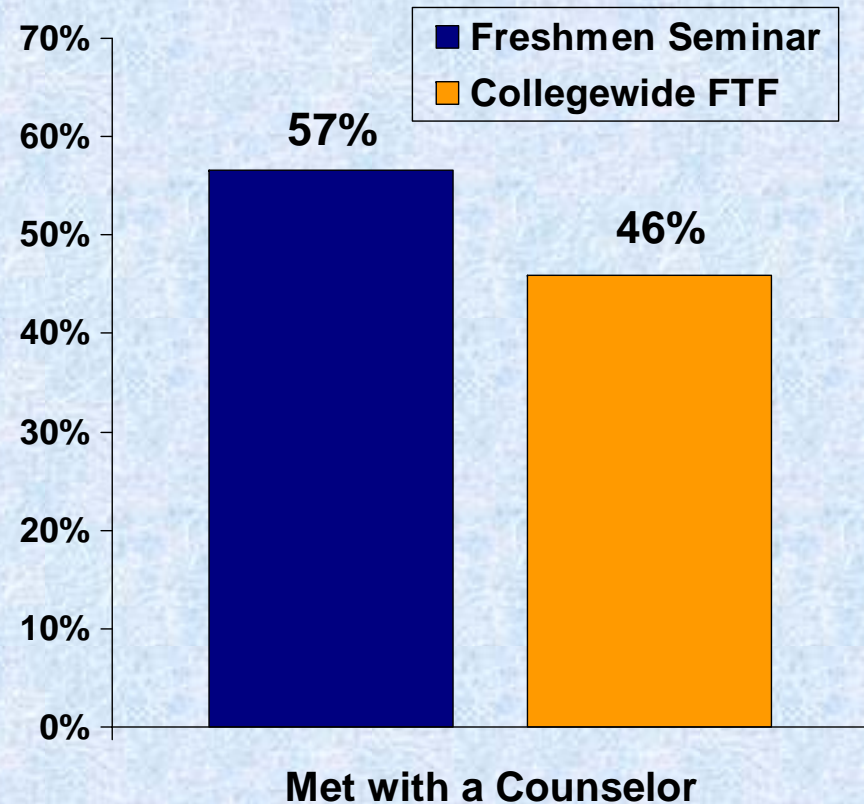
- Freshmen Seminar students
 - Successfully completed more units



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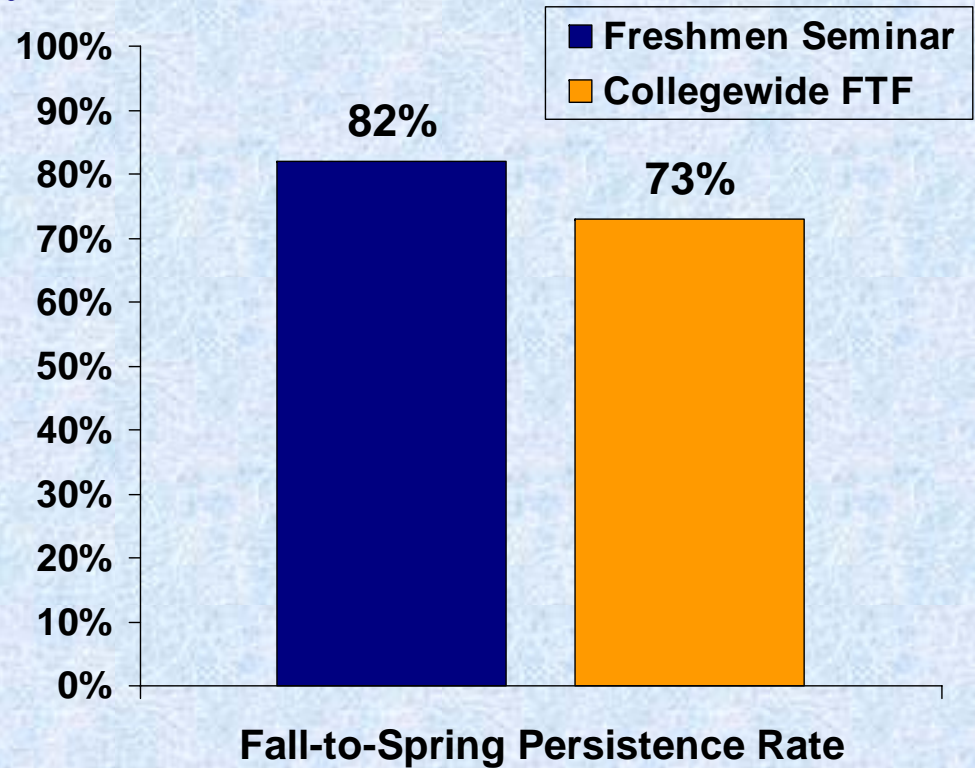
- Freshmen Seminar students
 - Accessed academic counseling at higher rates



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- Freshmen Seminar students
 - Persisted at higher rates



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Freshmen Seminar - Student Perceptions

- 90% stated that the program was helpful
- Over 50% expressed they had learned valuable information
- 35% participated in extra curricular activities
- Nearly 50% were able to identify barriers to their success
- 60% of students recognized a need for tutoring



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Lessons Learned:

- We can and did make a difference
- We turned dialogue into action
- Strategically linking student services and instruction facilitates student success
- Ongoing research-based assessment is critical to program effectiveness
- Programs based on established best practices are effective with our students

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Future Directions:

- Institutionalize Freshmen Seminar and Diop programs
- Expand orientation activities
- Increase the number of participants
- Expand research methods to study individual program components
- Add components from other successful programs