**Graduation Rate Excellence and Assessment Team (GREAT)**

Established October 2016

**Charge**

GREAT expects to positively impact graduation rates and achievement gaps while maintaining student access to an engaging, high-quality education. GREAT will provide recommendations to the President and inform the campus community on strategies that will position the University to accomplish the following priority goals related to the Board of Trustees and Chancellor’s Office system-wide Graduation Initiative (GRI) 2025:

* improve Freshmen 4-year graduation rate;
* eliminate the achievement gaps in graduation rates for underrepresented minority and Pell-eligible students; and
* improve Transfer 2-year graduation rate.

Specifically, GREAT will:

* identify and examine barriers to improving graduation rates;
* examine evidence of effectiveness in multiple existing programs designed to improve student success on our campus (e.g., Central Valley Math and Science Alliance, Program for Academic and Career Excellence, Early Start, and others) as well as elsewhere;
* make recommendations to the President and inform the campus community on initiatives/programs/services to meet the University’s priority goals related to GRI 2025; and
* oversee strategic implementation, assessment, and dissemination of the outcomes for these initiatives/programs/services for student success.

**Outcomes**

1. Lead consultation and refinement of the GRI 2025 Student Success Short-term Plan submitted to the Chancellor’s Office (CO).
2. Provide input on the implementation of the GRI 2025 Student Success Short-term Plan.
3. Lead consultation and refinement of the GRI 2025 Student Success Long-term Plan submitted to the Chancellor’s Office (CO).
4. Provide input on the implementation of the GRI 2025 Student Success Long-term Plan.
5. Host annual presentations on campus progress to various constituents and submit required reports to the CO annually and as otherwise requested.
6. Disseminate through University Communications and Public Affairs campus progress on the GRI 2025 Goals to the larger external community.
7. Showcase and highlight progress on GRI 2025 Goals to external partners (e.g., K-12, community college, parents, and employers) for student recruitment and career placement.

**Membership**

Membership is a grass roots effort, intended to bring together individuals to examine practices across the university. Membership was solicited through a nomination process, whereby the President’s Cabinet and the Senate Executive Committee were consulted to encourage a broad and diverse pool of faculty, staff, students, and administrators.

The GREAT Steering Committee will be facilitating the work of five workgroups within the Team. Each workgroup will have a Chair. The five workgroups are as follows.

1. Improving 4-Year and 6-Year Graduation Rates
2. Eliminating Graduation Rate Gaps for Underrepresented Minority and Pell-eligible Students
3. Improving Transfer 2-Year and 4-Year Graduation Rates
4. Reviewing Special Programs in Relation to Student Success
5. Reviewing and Recommending Budget Allocations and Tactical Resources for GRI 2025

**Timeline**

The GREAT Team is intended to be an ongoing entity through 2025, with specific goals and milestones identified on an annual basis, at the direction of the President.