## Student Success @UCR

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## UCR continues to close gaps in graduation rates among diverse and economically disadvantaged students

UCR six-year graduation rates compared to national averages (Cohorts graduating in 2013 to 2015)



Source: ir.ucr.edu

90%

https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d12/tables/dt12\_376.asp and https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/data/

## Increasing graduation rates while maintaining access and diversity

UCR 4 & 6 Year Graduation Rates and 4 Year Comparison to UIA Schools (All Colleges, First Time Freshman)



(UIA) University Innovation Alliance

### **Closing the STEM achievement gap**

Percentage of URM Students enrolled in CNAS vs Percentage of CNAS Degrees granted to URM Students



(URM) Underrepresented Minorities (CNAS) College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

#### **Increasing Freshmen and Transfer Retention Rates**



#### 2015 and 2016 Class Composition: By Ethnicity



#### 2015 and 2016 Class Composition: By College Preparedness

Profiles of the Freshmen Class 2015 and 2016



# First generation college students need special encouragement

- $\circ$  Students may question whether they belong at UCR
- First generation students likely come from families of modest means
  - They likely went to poor schools, and may have some deficits in knowledge or skills
  - With support, they can overcome these deficits and succeed at UCR Recommend students make use of the Academic Resource Center (ARC) <u>http://arc.ucr.edu</u>
    - Supplemental instruction (SI)
    - Tutoring
    - Support for writing (the Writing Center)
- Students may be pressured by families who want them to come home on weekends to help with siblings or work in the family business
- Their career choice may be chosen by their parents, and they may have a limited view of the majors they can pursue
- They may not be socialized to ask for help, and may be intimidated about approaching you with questions
  - Make yourself accessible: smile and chat with students before class
  - A help session before exams may be less threatening than expecting all students to come to your office hours

#### Your important role as a faculty mentor



"if graduates had a professor who cared about them as a person, made them excited about learning, and encouraged them to pursue their dreams, their odds of being engaged at work more than doubled, as did their odds of thriving in their wellbeing."

There are several ways you can mentor students:

- 1. Be a research mentor
- 2. Teach a class that incorporates service learning
- 3. Serve as faculty advisor for a student club
- 4. Mentor students teaching an R'Course

#### **Teaching excellence is also important for you!**

- Your teaching evaluations will be an important component of your merit and tenure reviews
  - UCR relies heavily on student evaluations of teaching. Read your evaluations and discuss them with a mentor
  - Arrive to class early and well-organized
  - For large classes or soft spoken individuals, the microphone is your friend
  - Students give more positive evaluations if they believe that you are fair and sincerely want them to be successful
- Peer evaluations of your teaching are useful and can be included in your file. Ask your chair to have someone from your department observe your teaching and summarize their comments in a letter
- The Academy of Distinguished Teachers are available to provide assistance and mentorship <u>http://academyteachers.ucr.edu/</u>
- $\circ~$  Attend seminars and workshops on topics related to teaching excellence

### Instructional Design & Faculty Support



## UCR Academic Support Units

#### Units



- VPUE Programs & Initiatives
- Computing & Communications
  - o Instructional Design
  - Multimedia, Research & Computing Support Services
- Library Services
- Others

#### Services

- Match appropriate tools to your teaching & learning goals
- Identify best practices to produce student engagement & persistence
- Investigate & facilitate current or emerging technologies
- Provide hybrid & online course re/design consults & workshops

http://cnc.ucr.edu/mt.html

#### **UCR Undergraduate Education Office**

