

RP Group: [Grounding Onboarding in the Student Experience](#)

Six Success Factors:

Directed: Students have informed education and career goals + comprehensive plan.

Focused: Students complete college-level English and math + demonstrate early program completion progress.

Nurtured: Students can identify at least one person on campus who knows about their success.

Engaged: Students demonstrate a connection with the campus community and/or attend Extracurriculars. (double check)

Valued: Students know their feedback is important to the college + actively provide Input.

Connected: Students demonstrate a connection with the campus community and/or attend extracurriculars.

Table: How is Foothill College currently doing to meet first-time college student needs?

<p>Task: Reflect on the question designated for your breakout group and list any activities, events, and support services that Foothill College has in place to meet the specific student needs.</p>	<p>Which Success Factors does each activity, event, or support service meet: D, F, N, E, V, and/or C?</p>
<p>Room 1 Qt.: How does your college help first-time students select and be prepared to enter an area of study?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CRLP 7/71 courses ● Career website (hasn't been updated in 7 yrs) ● CNSL 5 ● 1:1 Counseling sessions (academic/career domains) ● Orientation: Charting Your Course Module ● Programs and Courses page: https://www.foothill.edu/programs/ ● Career page: https://foothill.edu/career/ 	<p><u>Classes</u> - Focused? Directed <u>Career Website</u> - Connected? <u>Cnsl appts</u>- Nurtured, Directed? valued, <u>Orientation</u> ??</p>
<p>Room 2 Qt.:How does your college help first-time students stay on track and remain motivated through their first year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AB705 ● support courses for math & English ● Tutor Center, TLC, Garden (MPS), STEM Center ● Counseling Ed plans ● Pass the torch ● Guidance Counselor 	<p>Connected Nurtured Directed Orientation d</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Embedded counselors in support courses ● DRC, Accommodations ● Learning communities (EOPS, etc.) ● Faculty office hours/outreach 	
<p>Room 3</p> <p>Qt.:How does your college help first-time students feel that someone wants and expects them to be successful in their first year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New student orientation before Fall quarter - 5 steps require students to meet with specific folks on campus ● Quarterly welcome week through student services ● Learning community orientations ● Some faculty connect students to resources through introductory surveys ● Outreach program connects students to resources, ASFC ● Use our direct interactions with students th convey an expectation of success through encouraging language and tone ● Build relationships ● A goal would be to create social media, podcasts to help students connect with each other for support, validation of their experiences 	nurtured
<p>Room 4</p> <p>Qt.:How does your college help first-time students feel that they are part of the college community in their first year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Club Days ● Welcome Day ● Cohort programs (?) ● SOAR ● International Student Orientations ● College Hour ● Fine Arts Presentations (Dance/Theater performances) ● TLC conversation groups ● Tutoring and other support services ● Bridge to College (FEI) ● Day On the Hill ● ESL Orientations ● Heritage Months ● Student town Halls ● 	Focused Engaged Connected

Description: To craft a **student-centered** and **student-serving** Onboarding process, it's important to evaluate what Foothill College is currently providing first-time college students (Table 1) and also imagine what an *ideal student-focused onboarding process* would feel and look like.

Task: So, take **5 minutes** to *reflect* independently and *type* your ideas below. Allow your **creativity** to flow freely and make sure to **dream BIG**. If there were no restrictions, what type of onboarding process would you create for our amazing and deserving students?

Select a row below and **begin writing**. This is not a grammar or spelling quiz. Just *flow* with your ideas and allow your onboarding *dream process* to begin manifesting.



Orientations to campus that required all divisions/departments to be involved; particularly that of the instructional divisions. Students should have an opportunity to learn about the content and career options in particular division directly from the source. They should meet the administrators, leads, faculty in the classes they plan to spend more time in.

Overnight retreats for students where you can help build community; help students to explore their college-going identity and how they want that to look for them

Really snazzy and interesting online orientation module

Easy application process that also allows employees on the campus to collect pertinent information about incoming students and be able to outreach to students about specific things

Study groups and supportive communities for students to get through their first transfer level english/math courses

Celebration of important onboarding milestones that the college celebrates with its students

Affinity focused welcome receptions/orientations to connect them to particular employee mentors

My dream is that all students have at least one dedicated mentor to journey with them while at Foothill College and hopefully the relationship will extend beyond

My dream is that we would have a huge welcome party where each student was greeted and connected by/to a staff, student, faculty to answer questions, listen to the student story, their dreams, interests, identities and be there as a point of reference, check-in throughout the students journey- families welcomed too

Artificial Intelligence characters welcome the student and guide them through the process. A packet sent home with all the information they need to get started. I think tangible items

are something that is lost nowadays (shirt or something cool to sport on the first day of school). Prescheduled counseling appointments that they verify.

Dream. That students have an entry point that begins with a celebratory event. Could be a live orientation with snacks & music, that connects to doing the onboarding work. Could be an email that pops glitter when they open it, and includes a gift card or discount code which connects them to the orientation in some way. Connects them with a cohort of other incoming students, figuring out their path together. This group of peers will go through orientation/onboarding loosely together (not too many rules around this).

SOAR Workshops (MULTIPLE) on campus where the focus is to **highlight the cool/fun aspects of our campus** while also walking students through the matriculation process. The goal of these workshops would be for **students** to really **see themselves as leaders and members of our campus community** and to **streamline the registration process** as much as possible. Have students meet members of different programs and not just get a document with their contact info. **Personally introduce students to staff and faculty** and **foster that human connection** that's much needed.

Shout out to Adrienne and Raven for the amazing ideas.

Create a point person at the moment of a CWID being issued. Create a check-in protocol with more points of contact at transition periods - beginning of quarter, mid-terms, end of quarter/beginning of next. Allow sharing of academic progress as the term goes on from classes the student is in (with their permissions). "Just in time" resource recommendations, with the resources to back up the promises. More resources for campus and student to reduce burdens we have some control over. Words of encouragement, but prepared with suggestions to overcome struggles - some real world advice mixed in with academic.

Customized onboarding based on student profile/information. This can be done through a presurvey about themselves and different areas around campus reach out the student based on their response.

Online orientation that is interactive/transactional like Turbo Tax. Learn, have the software ask you questions and direct you to the next step. Do priority reg steps IN the orientation & have it sync with & into Banner - choose major/goal, math engl assess - drag and drop HS trans OR do self-guided placement; Connection: based on interests, have it suggest (intuitive AI/programming) careers/clubs/groups on campus; ed plan - students can schedule appt. w/ counselors right in the platform. Special pops: EOPS, Veterans, DRC, etc. - requiring additional intake/applications - have this in here as well. Welcoming crew. Welcome calls. Outreach from school if student is not enrolled or enrolled but no ed plan. Community building events.

Every student that applies to Foothill, gets contacted by someone offering to answer any questions they have. Every student has one person they can connect with throughout their time at Foothill, even if that one person needs to make referrals. Every student that applies

is automatically offered space in some sort of group/community, prior to even starting class.

No CCC Apply, or having a paper application alternative for students that don't speak English or have zero tech skills. It would also be wonderful to have more opportunities for ESL students, especially non-credit students, to engage with other students/programs on campus. Programs or events to celebrate and engage students coming from Adult Ed who are transitioning to college.

I'd like each student to have a personal contact that they can reach out with questions. At USF, they have a person (I'm forgetting what they call them) assigned to each individual. That staff person helps with any issues the student has and can refer them to resources, can help explain to students how to connect with faculty, etc.

I'd also like a step by step career exploration tool that referred the student to a FACULTY member in a specific META MAJOR. We can use the tool that are out there, like Career Coach, but instead of just a Holland Code with a list of career choices, we also have, if you're interested in these types of majors, talk to these faculty members about their majors. AND/OR, the faculty can create short videos about their field... Roadmap Nation does this but I find their resources so vast that it becomes overwhelming to navigate

I'd like to consider reincorporating a mandatory CNSL 5 course.

-fatima

easy online website or app that allows students to from the same school to connect easier and explains the whole process with frequently asked questions.

beginning with in person on campus orientation style. New students can get to know current students and build bonds to help them feel like they have a "college" friend on campus. They will be able to see everyone else, and the diversity of the campus along with faculty. The connectedness and getting familiar with campus will create less anxiety about being new.

A dance party! Music, a DJ and our staff happily welcoming them to the party. We create a list of welcoming phrases or words for our staff to use when emailing or speaking with students that are warm and compassionate. Also, encourage our staff to self identify when they were also first in their family to go to college as to connect with the student. For example, if a student expresses frustration with a bureaucratic process, the response can acknowledge and say something like, "I am totally with you. As the first in my family to go to college I was very overwhelmed as well but I will walk you through every step..."