

Background

- Numerous studies indicating students who are fully college ready are much more likely to persist term-to-term and to degree completion when compared to students who start in Developmental Education courses.
- Last year I began researching zero resource options to remediate and retest students on the PERT with the goal of getting them college ready.

The Program

- After reviewing a few different options, I approached my Academic

Leadership Team with the recommendation to launch a PERT Diagnostic, Remediation, and Retest pilot using A+ Advancer.

- In June 2012, Kent Campus President approved and funded a pilot program using A+ Advancer.
- The purpose of the pilot was to identify students who were “nearly fully college ready” and attempt to get them college ready through commercial off-the shelf diagnostic and remediation software.
- We targeted students who placed in UL Dev. Ed. only, (2) or fewer UL areas only.
- We set goal for pilot at 100 students.

Initial Questions

- Through computer-based remediation could we improve college readiness?
- Would the students who were able to retest college ready be successful in the follow-on courses?
- For students who participated in the pilot, would they be more likely to register and start classes?
- For students who participated in the pilot, would they be more likely to persist term-to-term and to degree completion?

The Process

- If the student qualifies based on PERT scores, we contact them and discuss the program.
- The student comes in, signs up for program, pays the PERT retake fee, and takes the diagnostic (in appropriate area or areas) which determines learning outcomes they need remediation.
- They go home, complete program online, and come back in and retest.

The Students

- Mean score of entering students in reading **95.8**
- Mean score of entering students in

mathematics: **104.4**

- Mean time spent in remediation, for those who retested: **837.5 mins (Almost 14 hours)**

Current Results

- In mathematics, **12 of the 51** students who have retested, tested college ready (**23.5%**) with an average increase in score of **4.1 points**.
- In reading, **9 of the 13** students who have retested, tested college ready (**69.2%**) with an average increase in score of over **14.5 points**.

- In writing, **1 of the 3** students who retested, tested college ready (**33.3%**) with an average increase in score by **6.7 points**.
- Overall **22 of the 67 retests**, retested college ready (**32.8%**).
- Currently, 74 students have signed up for pilot.

Current Results

(Students who started in Fall 2013)

Current Results

(MAT0028 Students in the Fall 2013)

Discussion

- Roughly $1/3$ are retesting college ready.
- We are seeing slightly better success rates for those who do not accelerate out of the class when compared with on campus students taking that course.
- We are seeing slightly better success rates for those students who make it to

college ready when compared with on-campus students taking the same course.

The Future (My Three Concerns)

- Before going any further, I wanted to know if cut-scores are a predicting factor in courses success. Requested a study of PERT UL cut-scores and their ability to predict success in the related course.
- A+ Advancer did not meet my expectations in mathematics.
- The program lacked tutorial support.

The Study

- Do PERT UL mathematics, reading, and writing placement scores predict likelihood of success in the related course?
- Intuitively, one would think so. You would surmise that a lower score means you are less prepared and thus less likely to be successful, while a high score would indicate the student is more prepared and thus more likely to be successful in the related course.
- Fall Term analysis comparing PERT score against success in UL class in each area.

The Study Reading

The Study Writing

The Study

Mathematics

The Next Step

- I am working with Pearson, to use their MyFoundationsLab for a college-wide pilot.
- This would included online tutorial support.
- Based on the PERT study I recommended the following requirements for program

participation:

- UL placement only, up to all three areas
- Reading (96 – 103)
- Writing (90 – 98)
- Mathematics (104 – 112)

Concluding Thoughts

- This is a zero or near zero resource option.
- The program would be ran out of the assessment centers.
- This program is only targeting students who placed into UL. Students with any LL placement would not be contacted.

- I am hopeful that we can raise the bar in mathematics and overall college readiness.