Increasing Opportunity: Establishing a Campus in an Underserved Area

Karen Borglum
Noelia Maldonado Rodriguez
Jennifer Robertson
Darren Smith

Valencia College, Orlando, FL
Introductions

• Karen Borglum - Professor of Speech (previous AVP for Curriculum and Assessment & SACSCOC Liaison)

• Noelia Maldonado Rodriguez - Coordinator, Institutional Advancement

• Jennifer Robertson - Executive Dean, Poinciana Campus

• Darren Smith - Director, Institutional Effectiveness & SACSCOC Liaison
Session Outline

• Valencia College Context - Service Area
• Need for the Campus
• Planning Process
• SACSCOC Substantive Change Prospectus
• SACSCOC Substantive Change Site Visit
Valencia College

- Part of the Florida College System
- Serves Orange and Osceola Counties in central Florida
- Multiple branch campus locations
- More than 65,000 students
Poinciana

- CDP in Osceola County
- Majority Hispanic

- Rapid population growth since 2000, but lower than average education attainment, higher than average levels of poverty and unemployment
Need for the Campus

- Rapid enrollment growth at the Osceola campus
- Limited local transportation infrastructure to access other Valencia campuses from Poinciana
- Local high schools have lower than average college-going rates
Planning and Development

• Planning team established in 2014 - faculty, staff, and students

• Online surveys of current students residing in Poinciana

• Community forums and conversations with community partners

• Incorporated into Valencia’s 2016-2021 Impact Plan and other strategic planning

EDUCATION ECOSYSTEMS

Vision:
Valencia belongs to a strong educational ecosystem that ensures that underserved populations have convenient access and appropriate awards of credit toward degree completion.

Goals:
1. Create new campus locations within underserved areas

   Objectives:
   • Establish Poinciana Campus with appropriately aligned degree programs.
   • Establish Downtown Campus with appropriately aligned degree programs.
Campus Construction

- Main Building - 3 floors
  - 3 floors
  - Houses academic/classroom spaces, support service offices, faculty/staff offices

- Center for Accelerated Training (CAT) - houses most Continuing Education programs
Programs at Poinciana

- Associate in Arts
- Associate in Science
  - Business Administration
  - Culinary Management
  - Hospitality & Tourism Management
  - Computer Information Technology
  - Criminal Justice Technology

- Continuing Education Programs
  - Intensive English
  - ESOL
  - Spanish
  - Construction
Substantive Change - Prospectus

• The Poinciana Campus was scheduled to open in fall 2017
• Prospectus submission in December 2016
• Approved by SACSCOC on May 18, 2017
Successful Opening

- 700 unduplicated student headcount in the first term of operation
  - 78% AA, 14% AS
  - 50% FTIC (vs 40% college-wide), 58% Pell Recipients (vs 38% college-wide)
  - 55% Hispanic
Substantive Change - Site Visit

• In the campus’s second term of operation (spring 2018), a substantive change review team visited

• Compliance documentation was submitted in fall 2017 as the team prepared

• As expected, this process included back-and-forth communication between the College and the review team, with additional documentation provided as requested
Hosting the Visiting Team

• Drivers to and from the airport
• Hotel arrangements with drivers to and from campus
• Work rooms - at hotel and on campus
  • Materials and documentation
• Meeting requests from the visiting team members
  • Students, staff, faculty, leadership

• Highlight - our Professor of Culinary Management (Chef Jen) on Poinciana showcased the work of our culinary students and her own talent by providing soup for the opening lunch as well as treats for the work room
Recent Developments

• Strong enrollment growth from first to second year
  • 257.6 FTE in fall 2017, 350.5 FTE in fall 2018 (36.1% increase)
Questions?