



ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES
FOR TUTORING & LEARNING ASSISTANCE

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Developmental Education At The Crossroads

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Developmental Education is...

“THE INTEGRATION OF COURSES AND SUPPORT SERVICES GUIDED BY THE PRINCIPLES OF ADULT LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT.”

SADDLEMIRE, 1976, BOYLAN, 1999, BOYLAN & BONHAM, 2014

Developmental Education

- ❖ Has been erroneously redefined by the media as consisting only of remedial courses.
 - ❖ Has been falsely accused of stifling student success.
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- ❖ Has been attacked based on flawed and misrepresented research.

Flawed and misrepresented research

MARTORELL & MCFARLIN, 2007 - *claimed that those who took remedial courses should outperform those who didn't.*

BAILEY, JEONG, & CHO, 2011 - *using a non-random sample counted students who did not enroll in college level courses following remediation as “failures.”*

COMPLETE COLLEGE AMERICA, 2012 - *claimed that since students taking remedial courses had lower graduation rates than those who didn't, these courses were the cause of student failure.*

Currently

- ❖ Developmental courses are being replaced by co-requisite courses in 12 states and more are considering doing so.
 - ❖ Hundreds of developmental instructors have lost jobs because they are not qualified to teach college level classes.
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- ❖ Reading and writing courses are being integrated, usually reducing emphasis on reading.

Currently

- ❖ There is more research going on in developmental education than ever before.
- ❖ There is more funding going into developmental education than ever before.
- ❖ There is more support for improvement than ever before.

Implications of The Reform Movement for Learning Assistance

- ❖ **Greater pressures to prove that what we do contributes to retention and graduation.**
- ❖ **Greater efforts to computerize learning assistance, tutoring, and advising to reduce costs.**
- ❖ **Greater emphasis on collaboration with developmental courses and other campus and community services.**

Question...

How do you collaborate?



Some Predictions

- ❖ More tutoring activities will be taken over by artificial intelligence programs.
- ❖ More computerized programs will replace academic advising and counseling.
- ❖ More support services will be outsourced to reduce costs.



Some Predictions

- ❖ More pressure will be brought to integrate courses and services.
- ❖ More learning assistance personnel will have a stronger voice on campuses.
- ❖ More research on support services will become available.



Have a Good Conference!

