What is the goal?

The goal for the summer success seminar was to create an incoming student experience that provides a successful acclimation opportunity towards being a prepared incoming engineering student at UTA, prior to the start of the fall 2019 semester.

Why does this matter?

The college would prefer for students to be well prepared and develop an incoming study network, connect with their college, and provide critical information prior to the start of classes. Additionally, the college would also prefer to incorporate suggestive course success strategies, or provide academic success resources well in advance of the first day of classes. Each of these offerings promotes early retention efforts for incoming students. Additionally, connecting with campus resources early promotes a positive connection to a variety of campus services.

What is the status?

The 2019 summer success seminar, at the College of Engineering, was held on Wednesday July 17, 2019 from 9:30am to 1:30pm in ERB 435. A total of 52 participants, from 28 different cities within the state of Texas, were in attendance. A total of four workshops were provided on topics such as Time Management and Study Skills, Student Resources for Achieving Math Success, Note and Test Taking Skills, and a top ten presentation on successful strategies for incoming college students. The event was marketed to both freshman and transfer students with an even distribution in attendance for the event. The College of Engineering’s office of Student Services, partnered with the Division of Student Success and UTA’s Math Learning Resource Center, to offer hands on experiences for participants.

The CoE Board participated in two activities since the last Board meeting. The CoE Board, in cooperation with the EE Board of Advisors, was successful in finding nine new UNIV-EN1131 Student Success faculty members from industry for fall 2019. The board was also able to find 3 additional potential faculty members for fall 2020. The goal is to help bring more industry representatives in the program to help teach these courses. Additionally, the CoE Board also participated in the College of Engineering Job Fair on September 25, working with companies and students to find matches and in some cases, offer recommendations. 3 potential department-level board members were also identified, two of which can potentially sponsor senior design projects.
What will you accomplish by when?

The initial goal was set at a minimum of 50 participants for this pilot initiative. The attendance goal was therefore met.

Students completed an end of the experience survey, on their cell phones, which indicated that eighty five percent of students would recommend the success seminar to an incoming UTA student.

Attendance by Numbers
Incoming freshman: 25
Transfer student: 25
Other: 2

What are your points of discussion with the board?

If board members view this type of activity viable with incoming freshman and transfer students, the student success office would like to engage with the board members to discuss their interest, thoughts and considerations towards newly targeted student success initiatives for the college.