

## Enhancing College Retention Efforts: Lessons from Unreasonable Hospitality

## Agenda

#### Introduction

Overview of the presentation's purpose and key topics

## College Retention Challenge

Understanding the current landscape and importance of college retention

#### Unreasonable Hospitality Principles

Key lessons from the book that can be applied to college retention

## Implementing Strategies

Practical ways to create an exceptional student experience

#### Retention Team Roles

Introducing the key personnel involved in driving student success

## Measuring Success

Relevant metrics and data points to track college retention improvement

#### Case Study

Highlighting a real-world example of Unreasonable Hospitality in action

## Next Steps

Recommendations and action items for attendees to implement

# "Hospitality is not something you do to someone, it's something you do for someone."

**WILL GUIDARA** 

## Table of Contents: Unreasonable Hospitality

Chapter	Title
6	Pursuing a True Partnership
7	Setting Expectations
8	Breaking Rules and Building a Team
9	Working with Purpose on Purpose
10	Creating a Culture of Collaboration
12	Relationships Are Simple. Simple Is Hard.
2	Making Magic in a World That Could Use More of It

## Implementing Unreasonable Hospitality in Higher Ed

## Personalized Onboarding

#### Holistic Student Support

## Engaged Faculty and Staff

## Tailored Curricular and Co-curricular Experiences

Seamless
Communication
and Feedback
Loops

Create a personalized onboarding experience for new students, ensuring they feel welcomed, supported, and empowered from the moment they step on campus.

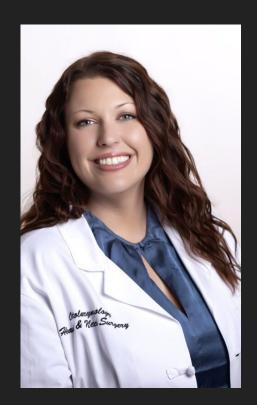
Offer a comprehensive support system that addresses students' academic, social, emotional, and financial needs, fostering a sense of community and belonging.

Empower faculty and staff to become active participants in the student experience, encouraging them to build genuine connections and go the extra mile for students.

Design curricular and co-curricular experiences that are tailored to students' individual interests, strengths, and learning styles, promoting engagement and personal growth.

Establish clear and responsive communication channels, actively seeking student feedback and using it to continuously improve the student experience.

## The Retention Team



**Dr. Emily Wilkins**Vice President of Student
Affairs



Samantha Gonzalez

Director of Enrollment

Management



Tyrone Johnson

Academic Advisor



Jessica Patel
Peer Mentoring Coordinator

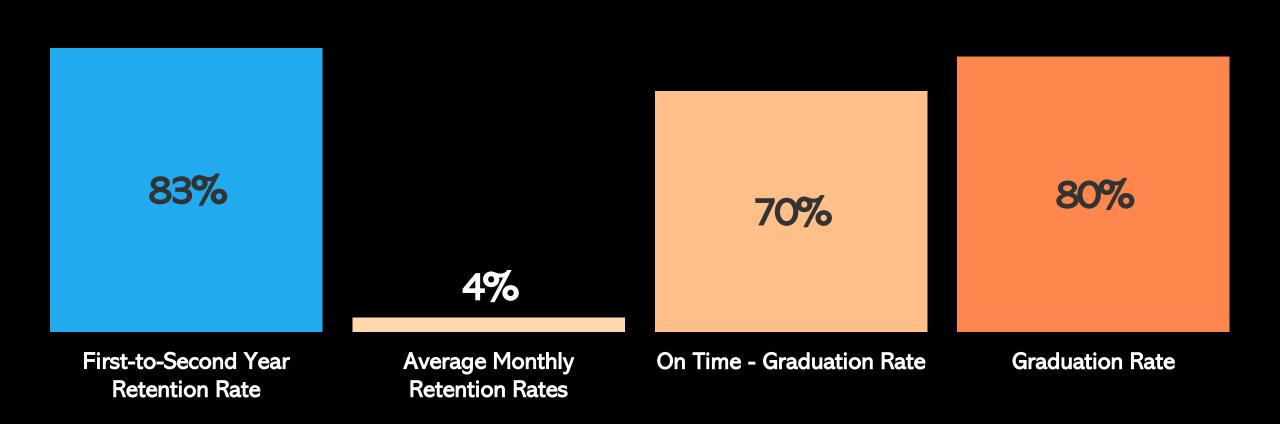


**Dr. Liam O'Connor**Director of Counseling

Services

## Measuring Success

Percentage of students retained from first to second year, average time to degree completion, and graduation rates



## Case Study: Successful College Retention Initiative



**Engaged Students** 

Students actively participating in campus life and programs



**Collaborative Staff** 

Faculty and staff working together to support student success



**Personalized Outreach** 

Targeted initiatives to connect with and support individual students

## **Next Steps**

#### Establish a Student Retention Task Force

Assemble a cross-functional team of administrators, faculty, and student representatives to collaborate on developing and implementing Unreasonable Hospitality-inspired strategies for improving college retention.

#### Conduct a Student Experience Audit

Thoroughly evaluate the current student experience, from the application process to graduation, to identify areas for improvement aligned with the principles of Unreasonable Hospitality.

## • Implement a Holistic Onboarding Program

Design a comprehensive onboarding program that goes beyond the traditional orientation, focusing on welcoming students, building a sense of community, and providing personalized support from the moment they enroll.

#### Enhance Student Engagement Opportunities

Expand extracurricular activities, student organizations, and campus events that foster a strong sense of belonging and create opportunities for students to connect with their peers and the institution.

#### Develop a Proactive Advising Model

Transition from a traditional reactive advising approach to a proactive model, where advisors regularly check in with students, provide personalized guidance, and identify and address any potential challenges early on.

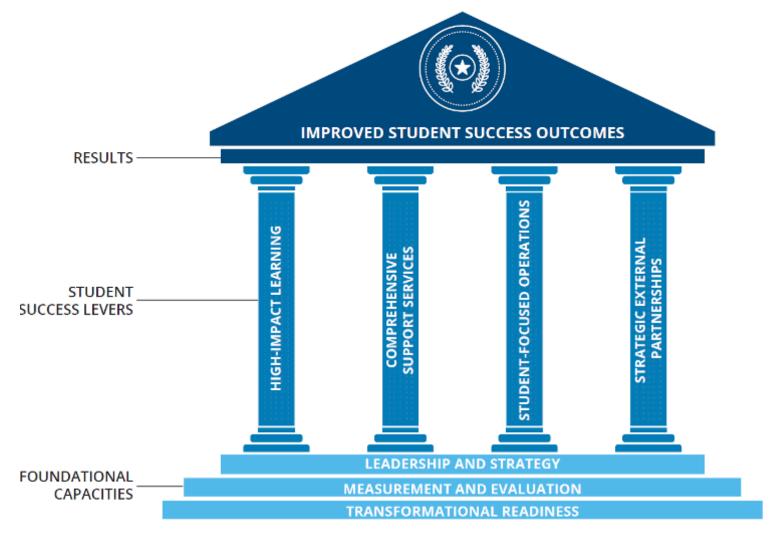
## Implement a Comprehensive Student Support System

Integrate various student support services (academic support, mental health resources, career counseling, etc.) into a seamless, easily accessible platform to ensure students have the resources they need to succeed.

# The Challenge of College Retention

College retention is a critical issue facing higher education institutions across the United States. With rising tuition costs, increasing competition for students, and various socioeconomic factors impacting student success, colleges and universities are grappling with how to effectively support and retain their student populations.

Figure 2. Building an institution designed for student success



Source: Deloitte Consulting LLP.



## Thank You

Beylor Meza

**Chief Operating Officer** 

Success Education Colleges