State of Social and Behavioral Science Pathway at Bakersfield College

The Social and Behavioral Science Pathway completion coaching team focused on getting students to declare their appropriate major, to take 15 or more units their first semester, to complete 30 units their first year, to take college level math and English their first year and graduate and/or complete their program of study with least possible units.

Five Year Trend, Disaggregated by Demographics

The chart below is indicative of growth and clarification of major (reviewing student education plans to ensure they are in the correct pathway). The first-time student headcount grew by 108% over the last 5 years.

The following chart shows the greatest growth in our Hispanic/Latinx student demographic.
The work of our Outreach Office has had an impact in the growth of our 19 and younger student population as indicated below.

**First-Time Student Headcount for Social and Behavior Science Pathway, by Age Group**

As indicated, this pathway focused on getting our pathway students take 15 or more units in their first term and these efforts proved to be a success. Since Fall 2015, which had 10% of Social and Behavioral Science students taking 15 or more units, to 17% in the Fall of 2018.

**Momentum Points**
The focus to get students to take 30 plus units in their first year proved fruitful as well, the percent of students in this cohort increased from 10% in Fall of 2014 to 17% in the Fall of 2017.

The following chart shows that First-Time Social and Behavioral Science students completing transfer level English and math in their first year was one of the greater accomplishments during the past five years. The percentage of students almost doubled, from 6% in Fall 2014 to 11% in Fall 2018.
Actions Taken to Advance the Momentum Points

The Social and Behavioral Science Pathway completion coaching community is a great team with passion for this cohort. The team met monthly, continuously reviewed the stats, followed the Communication Plan, collaborated with the Career Education department on appropriate Career Awareness Days and brought occasional student success stories to the meetings.

Looking Ahead at the Next 3 Years

The Social and Behavioral Science Pathway is in support of yearlong (if not two years) course scheduling. The team feels strongly that yearlong scheduling would have a positive impact on student progression, retention and completion. This Pathway Team plans on doing more discipline specific career days in collaboration with the Career Education department.