Building Student Success and Retention through an Enhanced Peer Counseling Program

Timothy B. Holt
*Emory-Riddle Aeronautical University*, holtt@erau.edu

Jacqueline R. Luedtke
*Emory-Riddle Aeronautical University*, jackie.luedtke@erau.edu

Claire Schindler
*Emory-Riddle Aeronautical University*, schindc2@my.erau.edu

Follow this and additional works at: [https://commons.erau.edu/publication](https://commons.erau.edu/publication)

Part of the Educational Leadership Commons

Scholarly Commons Citation
Holt, T. B., Luedtke, J. R., & Schindler, C. (2016). Building Student Success and Retention through an Enhanced Peer Counseling Program. . (). Retrieved from [https://commons.erau.edu/publication/321](https://commons.erau.edu/publication/321)

This Poster is brought to you for free and open access by Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Publications by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact commons@erau.edu.
Building Student Success and Retention through an Enhanced Peer Counseling Program

Claire G. Schindler
College of Aviation
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University - Prescott, Arizona

Background
In an industry where "Aircraft maker Boeing forecast that 558,000 new commercial airline pilots will be needed over the next 20 years, in a report released Monday. That works out to about 28,000 pilots each year," being a pilot is in very high demand (Harrison). The demand in the industry has caused a large lack of flight instructors available at Embry-Riddle, leaving a climbing portion of students that had numerous repeated flight activities and struggled in their academic ground schools. This left students trapped in a slump in their training with rising financial debt.

Abstract
In recognition of increasing rates of repeated ground schools and flight lessons, in combination with decreasing retention rates in the flight programs at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, the Department of Aeronautical Science in the College of Aviation took initiative to create a program that identified struggling students before they reached excessive failure or financial distress. The students identified in the Student Success Initiative (SSI) after being assessed would be required to attend a mediation session with their academic and flight training staff in order to create a specialized training program.

- Student Success Initiative (SSI)
- Identifies "at risk" students
- Implemented training plan tailored to student
- One-on-one instruction

Methods
Initially the SSI in its first inception had a few initial issues:
- Coordination between flight and academics
- Student lack of response
- Staffing

The College of Aviation then implemented Peer Counselors:
- Students with AGI/IGI or working to attain
- Solve staffing problem
- One-on-one tutoring or Airway Science Tutor Lab
- True Course Simulations™2016

Conclusions
The Peer Counseling program has taken off to be one of the most utilized resources available for the College of Aviation, as shown in the graphs provided. The program has provided a solace for struggling students to ask for help and has given real life experience to those students looking to become flight instructors.

References