GEAR UP MENTORING PROJECT SPRING 2016

To assist the colleges/universities with the reporting on the GEAR UP mentoring process, each college/university GEAR UP representative should respond to these questions.

Please upload completed report to NSHE OwnCloud by May 23, 2016. Please contact Renee Davis, Director of Student Affairs at renee_davis@nshe.nevada.edu to set up your account.

QUESTIONS:
1. Attach the completed GEAR UP Mentoring Report Excel Form listing student names and contact dates.
   a. Please see attached contact log.

2. Respond to the following questions:
   a. Please describe the GEAR UP mentoring process on your campus in one paragraph.

   The mentoring program is very similar to the program reported in the academic year 2014-2015. Our goal is to provide mentoring services to eligible students in a safe, productive, and cost effective manner. GEAR UP funds were used to hire a graduate assistant in order to provide current GEAR UP scholars with appropriate advising and academic counseling. The GA was co-located with counselors and mentors from the TRiO Scholars Program. The GA met with students in the office as well as through phone calls, e-mail, and social media. She provided support for GEAR UP scholars as they transition from college students to their professional roles. Advising has moved from academic support to professional and graduate school preparation along with focused attention on the process involved with repaying student loans. The mentoring program is housed in the department of Academic & Opportunity Support Programs along with the TRiO Scholars Program, the McNair Scholars Program, the GEAR UP Ambassador Program, Nevada First in the Pack Program and UNR’s three Upward Bound Programs. All programs serve similar populations.

   b. Have you hired additional staff as GEAR UP mentor(s), or did you use the resources to supplement existing staff? Please describe.

   GEAR UP mentor funds were used to hire a Graduate Assistant and to pay for GEAR UP training for the graduate assistant. Additional funds were used for the
GEAR UP graduation celebration and to contract Don Asher, a graduate school application specialist.

c. Who is the administrator of the GEAR UP mentor program and their contact information? Who is the point of contact on your campus and their contact information?

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d. Has every GEAR UP student on your campus been contacted and are they aware that there is a main point of contact for GEAR UP on your campus?

Yes, 100% of the GEAR UP cohort has been contacted via phone call and email. Phone calls were made to every scholar at least once during each semester, including phone calls to those scholars not currently enrolled in classes. In addition to phone calls, the weekly newsletter informs GEAR UP students of about pertinent information such as current and future events on campus as well as details on how to access campus academic and other support services. The email address and phone numbers for all GEAR UP staff is provided on our website.

This year was especially unique as our preliminary data identified 77 students graduating from the University of Nevada, Reno. The GEAR UP team was able to connect with students in order to honor them at a graduation celebration held in conjunction with other access and opportunity programs on campus.

Based on the original 2012 cohort who enrolled at the University of Nevada, Reno directly following high school, 60% (157) were still enrolled at the University in spring 2016 and 23% (77) graduated. Forty percent (105) of the original cohort are not enrolled and have not graduated.
e. Are referrals to appropriate student services, such as tutoring, TRIO, etc., being made for each student as needed?

Yes, all referrals are noted on the contact log. The GEAR UP program is fortunate to be located in a building that houses many of these resources. There are a number of GEAR UP scholars who are part of the TRiO Scholars Program as well as College Life 101 hosted by the Center for Student Cultural Diversity. In addition, all students are encouraged to meet with their academic and financial aid advisors. The weekly newsletter includes various resources for students to access across campus. To date, 30 editions of the newsletter have been sent to scholars for the academic year 2015-2016.

f. If the GEAR UP mentor resources have not been utilized, please provide an explanation.

All GEAR UP Mentor funds were utilized.

For more information please contact:
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