University of California – Umoja Diversity Pipeline Partnership

Donna Colondres-Umoja Executive Director
Tom Dewit – Umoja Executive Director
Kory Hawkins – UC Office of the President
Kari Stewart – UC Office of the President
Who is in the room?
Session Goals

• Learn about the history and purpose of Umoja
• See what a model local partnership looks like
• Learn about the purpose and elements of the statewide UC-Umoja Diversity Pipeline Initiative
• Consider ideas that you might draw from when you return home
Some things to consider

1. What initiatives have already been implemented at your institution?

2. How can our model be used at your institution to address the achievement gap?

3. How could our collaborative model complement approaches you have already taken?
African Americans in California Community Colleges (CCC)

- Overview of CCC System
- African American students in higher education
- Who we serve
Umoja Educational Philosophy

Umoja (a Kishwahili word meaning “unity”) is a community and critical resource dedicated to enhancing the cultural and educational experiences of African American and other students.

We believe that when voices and histories of students are deliberately and intentionally recognized, the opportunity for self-efficacy emerges and a foundation is formed for academic success.

Umoja actively serves and promotes student success for all students through a curriculum and pedagogy responsive to the legacy of the African and African American Diasporas.
History of Umoja

• How and why we started Umoja
• From volunteering to funding
• Application and affiliation process
• Training
• Leadership team and working board formed
• Partnerships
Purpose/Need for Umoja

• Low academic performance
• Lack of confidence from students and instructors
• Substandard college readiness
• Umoja outcomes data
UC Davis-Umoja Partnership

- A history of support and collaboration
- Let’s make it official – signing the MOU
- Deepening the commitment – becoming a true partner
- Good news travels – signing a UC systemwide MOU
Examples

- The Annual Northern CA Umoja Symposium
- The UC Access and Opportunity Workshop
- Umoja VIP Days
- Summer Experience Programs
Purpose

• Supporting Umoja develops a culture of success
• Cross-training creates synergy
• Hosting Umoja events creates exposure and aspiration
• Developing new initiatives creates community
The University of California System

- 10 UC campuses, 238,000 students
- Systemwide HQ is UC Office of the President
- Office of Diversity and Engagement
- Community College Transfer Preparation (TransferPrep)
UC’s Commitment to Diversity

- 1868: California Organic Act
- 1995: SP 1
- 1996: Proposition 209
- 2007: UC Regents Diversity Statement
The Pipeline Narrows

150,000 African American CCC students enrolled

5,300 transfer-ready

1,800 UC applicants

1,100 admitted

900 SIR

601 enroll
UC–Umoja
Diversity Pipeline Partnership

• It’s a big deal!
• Model was the UC Davis-Umoja MOU
• Goal is to increase number of Umoja participants who transfer to UC
• Partnership is young
# Shared Responsibility

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<tr>
<th><strong>UC</strong></th>
<th><strong>Umoja</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Access to UC Transfer Admission Planner</td>
<td>• Transfer activities with UC campuses</td>
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<td>• Central listserv</td>
<td>• Monitoring and tracking of transfer-ready participants</td>
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<td>• Campus presence at events</td>
<td>• Access to UC TransferPrep services</td>
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<td>• Training, PD and info for practitioners</td>
<td>• Share student information</td>
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<td>• Info-sharing on transition support</td>
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**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**

**umoja**
Early Lessons

- Relationships matter
- Building trust takes time and commitment
- Our cultures are different, but our goals are the same
- Setting high standards breeds successful outcomes
Questions?
For more information

Umoja Community Education Foundation
umujacommunity.org

Office of Diversity and Engagement
UC Office of the President
ucop.edu/diversity-engagement
Thank you!