


# Learning Communities & Collaborative Learning

Friday, April 11, 2014  
COCC Teaching Academy

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# Overview of Presentation

- ▶ Why Collaborate? Who Benefits?
  - ▶ Learning Community Samples
  - ▶ Other types of collaborative teaching
  - ▶ Small group activity
  - ▶ Large group sharing
  - ▶ Online resources: LC website, Teaching Commons website
  - ▶ Questions
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# Why Collaborate



## Benefits to Students

- ▶ **Increases Engagement & Connection**
  - With other students (2003, Tinto)
  - With faculty (2008, Kuh)
  - With content & learning (2003, Tinto)
- ▶ **Develops Career Readiness Skills**
  - Group work
  - Multi-disciplinary approaches to problem solving
  - Asked to consider multiple perspectives
- ▶ **Identified as a High Impact Educational Practice**
  - Association of American Colleges and Universities
  - Center for Community College Student Engagement

## Benefits to Faculty

- ▶ **Increases engagement & connection**
  - With other faculty – cross fertilization of ideas
  - Strengthens ties to college
- ▶ **Opportunity to learn & improve practice**
  - Try new ideas



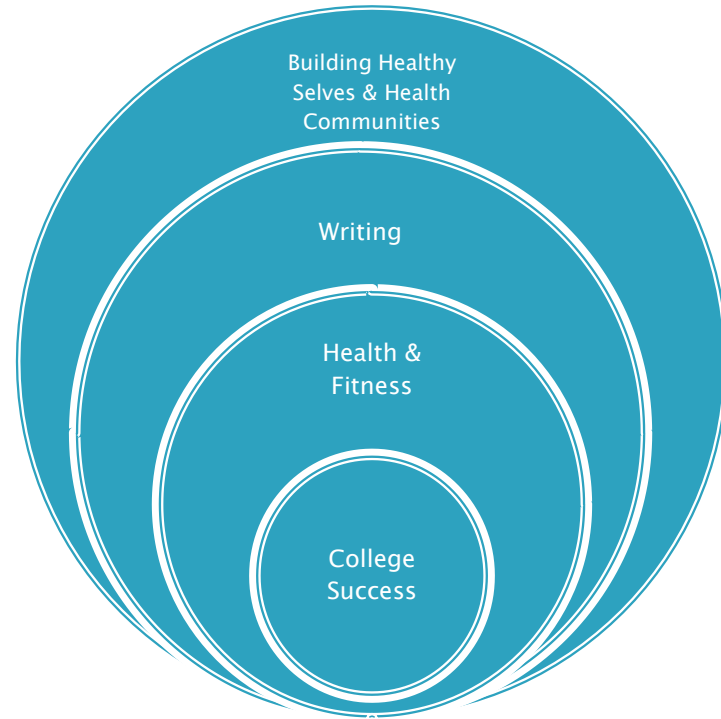
# Student Quote

“Participating in a learning community was one of the best decisions that could have been made for me. Not only was the material easier to remember and relate because of the combination of the courses, but it made it much more interesting. The best part overall was meeting and making friendships with all of the students in the learning community. Being a first-term freshman, I didn’t know anyone upon entering college. We all got very close and even spend time with each other outside of class and school. I would strongly recommend learning communities to every freshman entering college.”

# Benefits to COCC

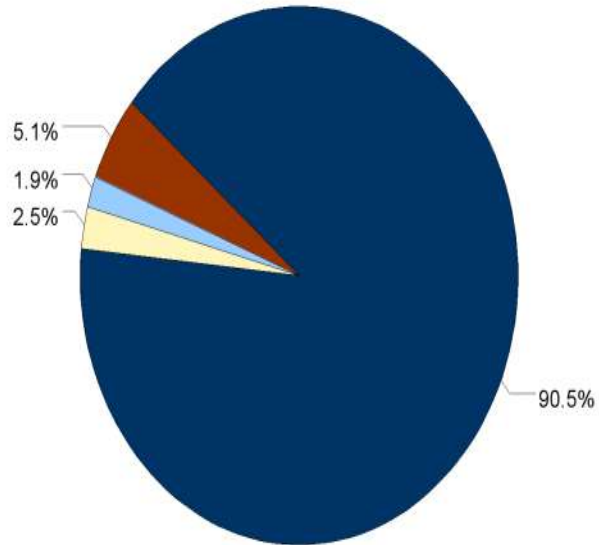
- ▶ **81%** of students reported that their LC experience improved their interest in getting a degree
- ▶ **90%** agreed that the skills they learned in their LC will help them be successful in future coursework
- ▶ **82%** reported doing coursework with fellow LC students outside of class
- ▶ **99%** agreed or strongly agreed that their LC teachers encouraged them to use campus resources (NOTE: support for learners was aspect of lowest engagement in 2011 CCSE survey results)
- ▶ **99%** would encourage other students to take LC courses

# Common LC Types

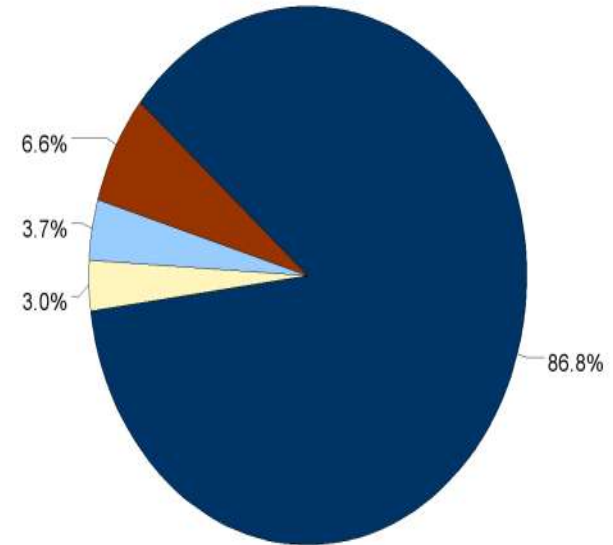


# We could do more!

Central Oregon Community College



2011 Cohort



- Yes, in my first semester/quarter at this college
- Yes, in my first AND in at least one other semester/quarter at this college
- Yes, but NOT in my first semester/quarter at this college
- No, I did not