Retention & Graduation Deep Dive

Chancellor Venkat Reddy
February 14, 2019

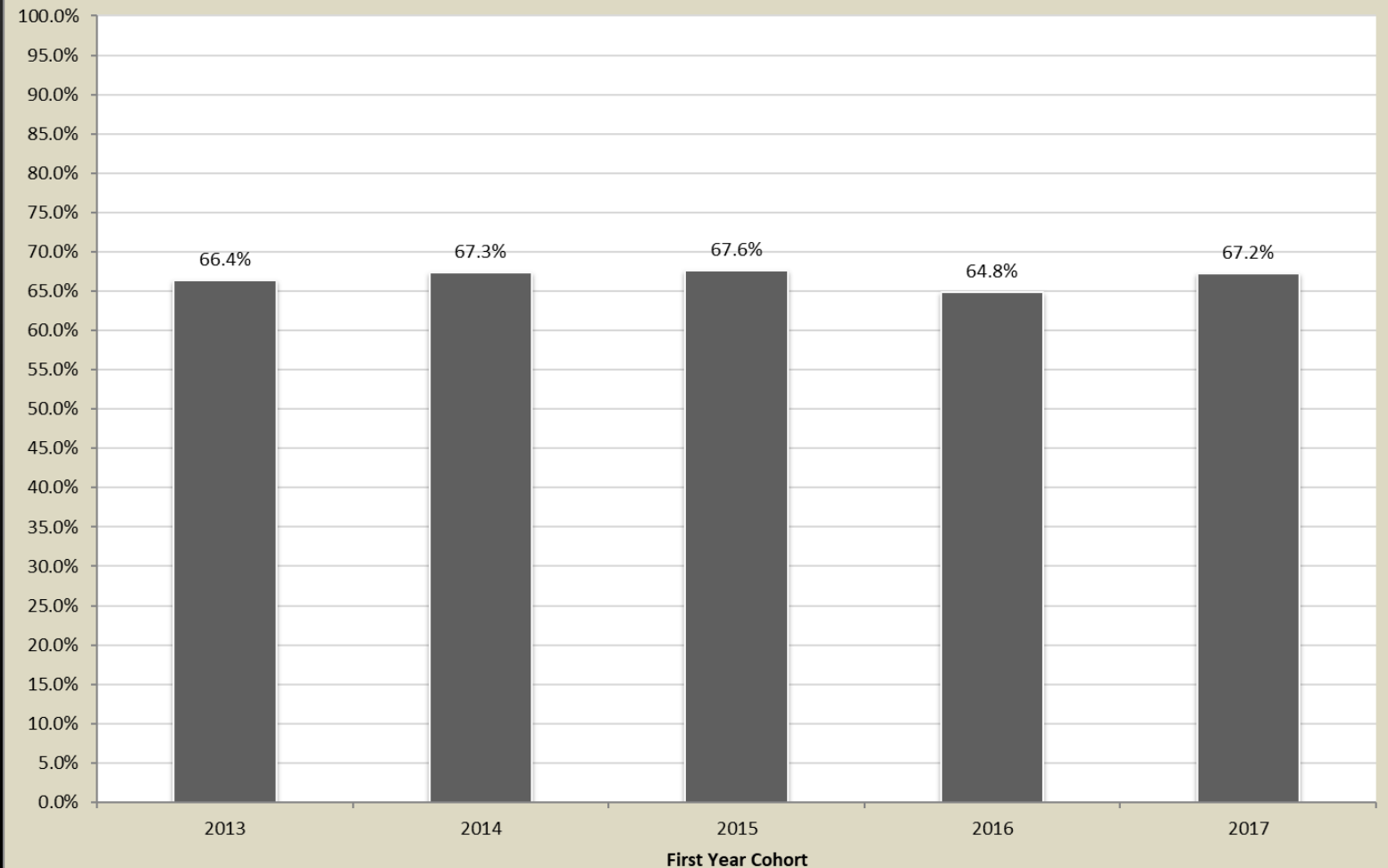**UCCS** University of Colorado
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RETENTION

Retention Rate
(First-Time Freshman)

	2017 BASELINE	2023 GOAL
BOULDER	88%	93%
UCCS	66%	72%
DENVER	67%	75%
ANSCHUTZ	>95%	MAINTAIN

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First-Year Student Retention Rate

Bar chart — First Year Cohort:
- 2013: 66.4%
- 2014: 67.3%
- 2015: 67.6%
- 2016: 64.8%
- 2017: 67.2%

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GRADUATION RATES

Four-, Five- and Six-Year Graduation Rates for Cohorts 2004-2012

Percent of Students in Cohort Who Graduated

Year	4yr	5yr	6yr
2004	22	40	47
2005	22	36	41
2006	24	42	47
2007	26	42	46
2008	27	42	47
2009	24	40	44
2010	25	41	47
2011	23	38	43
2012	24	39	45

Starting First-Time Full-Time Freshman Cohort
Source: IPEDS Graduation Rate Survey
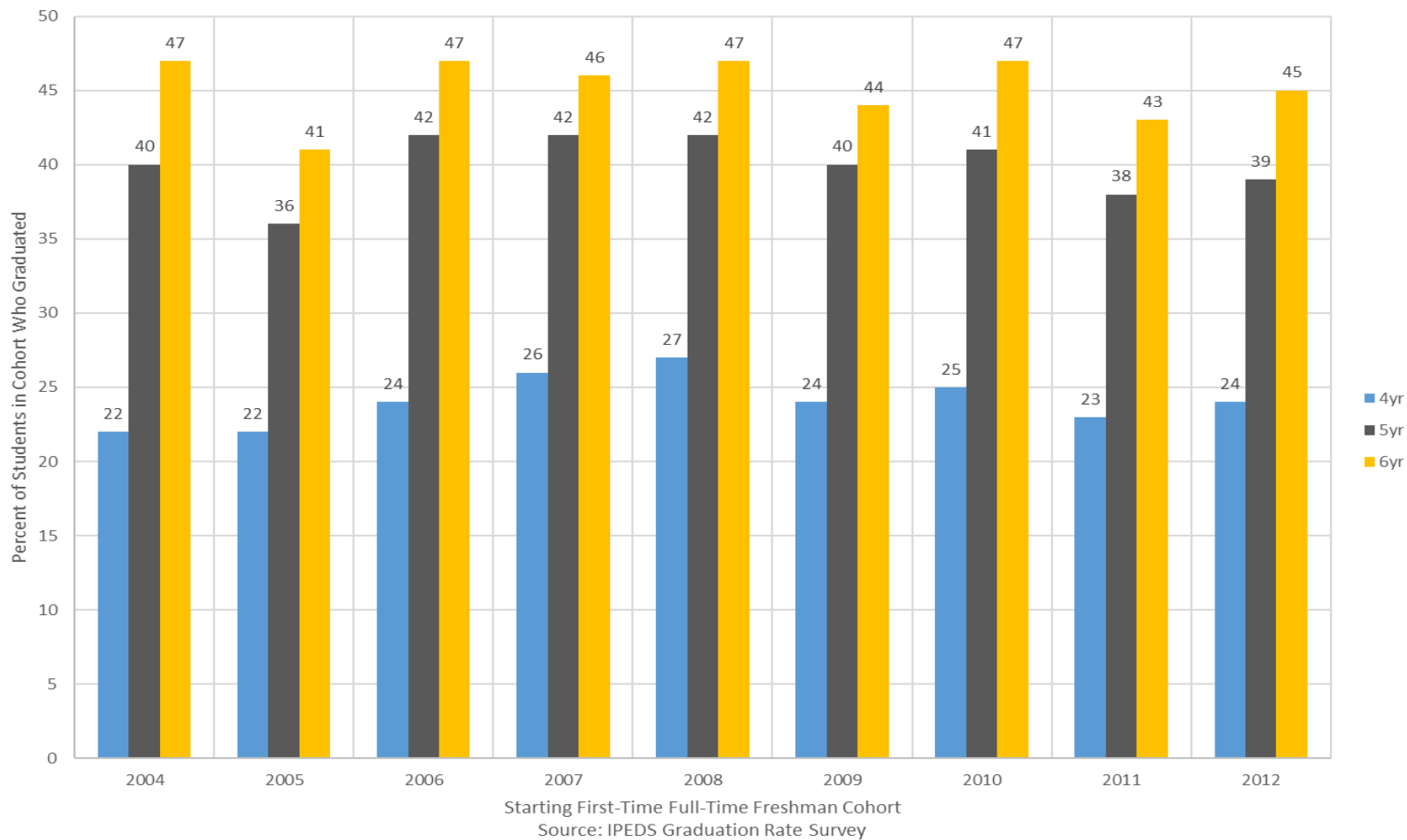
4-Year Graduation Rate

	2017 BASELINE	2023 GOAL
BOULDER	45%	52%
UCCS	23%	27%
DENVER	23%	27%
ANSCHUTZ	>95%	MAINTAIN

6-Year Graduation Rate

	2017 BASELINE	2023 GOAL
BOULDER	69%	80%
UCCS	43%	53%
DENVER	45%	60%
ANSCHUTZ	>95%	MAINTAIN

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DEGREES CONFERRED

- 2,346 in 2017/18
- More than 50% of total degrees conferred in last ten years

Degree Conferrals by Fiscal Year

>50%

Degrees Awarded
(Degree Recipients)

	2017 BASELINE	2023 GOAL
BOULDER	7,486	9,000
UCCS	2,376	2,838
DENVER	3,792	4,424
ANSCHUTZ	1,418	1,482

Legend: Doctorate, Masters, Certificate, Baccalaureate
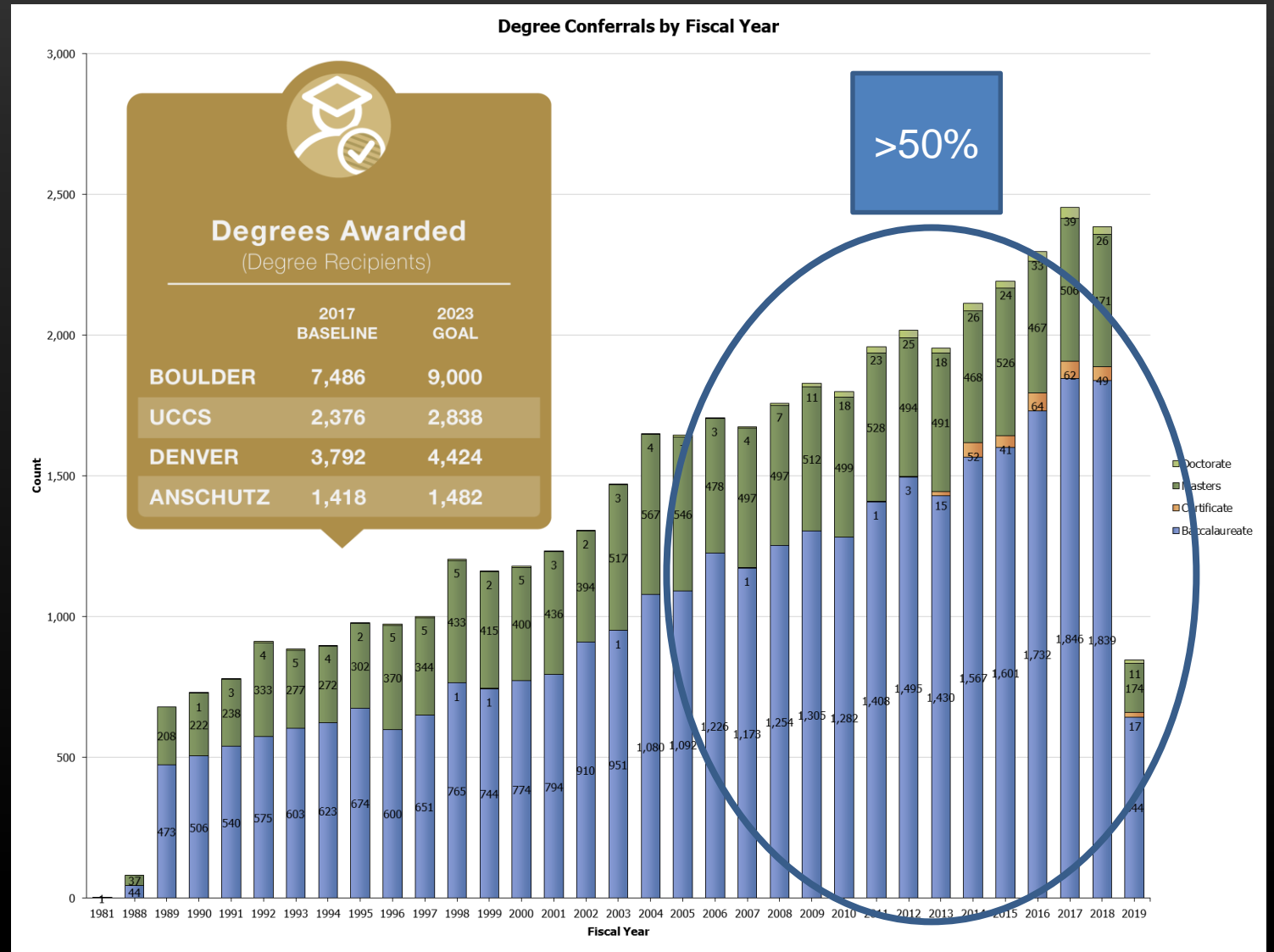
GRADUATION - JUNIOR COHORT SUCCESS

Graduation Rates by Cohort Type: Junior vs. First-Year Cohorts
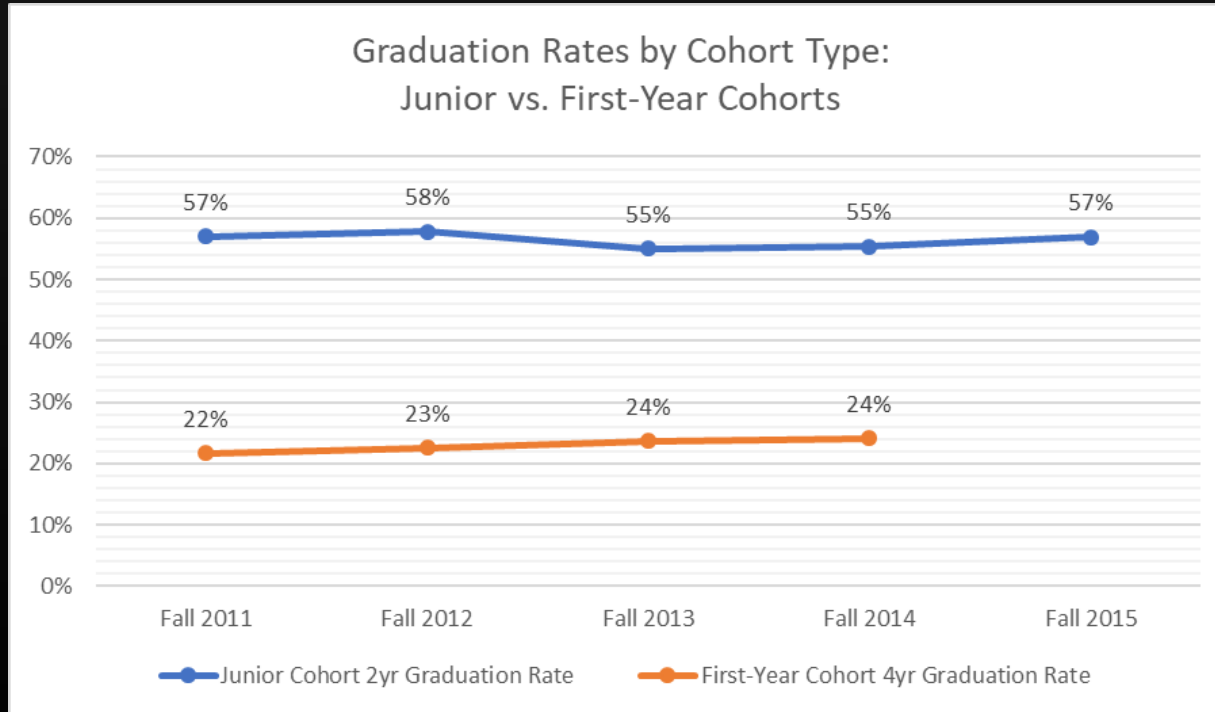
- Nearly 60% of students that make it to junior cohort go on to graduate
- Retention in First Year and persistence to junior cohort are keys to graduation success

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RETENTION EFFORTS – "ONE STUDENT AT A TIME"

- **67.2% to 72% is only 98 more students/year**

- How do we get there (notional)
  - Advising – 35 students
  - Academic support – 25 students
  - Campus support – 25 students
  - Degree planning – 15 students

ACADEMIC ADVISING

- **Mandatory advising for first years**
  - Retention of first year students with Academic Advising direct contact (Fall 2017) – 71.5%
  - Implemented mandatory advising for all first years (Fall 2018) - 89% face-to-face
  - 39% had multiple meetings with advisors

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ACADEMIC SUPPORT – AREA SPECIFIC

- **Excel Centers**
  - Five centers – Math, Science, Writing, Communication, Languages
  - 107,349 registered visits (2017/18)
  - 6,549 unique students
  - 80% retention for students who visit 5 or more times/year
  - Peer assisted study – High "DFW" math courses
  - Engineering Center pilot

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ACADEMIC SUPPORT – RESIDENTIAL

- **Academic Commons**
  - Two new (one/residence village)
  - Peer learning assistants
  - Learning technology design
  - Traffic – 389 unique students used (900+ visits)
  - First Year Programs and Academic Advising provide "meet them where they are" programs in the space

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ACADEMIC SUPPORT - CURRICULAR

- **First Year seminar (GPS)**
  - Objectives to support transition to college
  - Transition courses for veterans
  - Courses for transfers
  - Interest area courses for first years
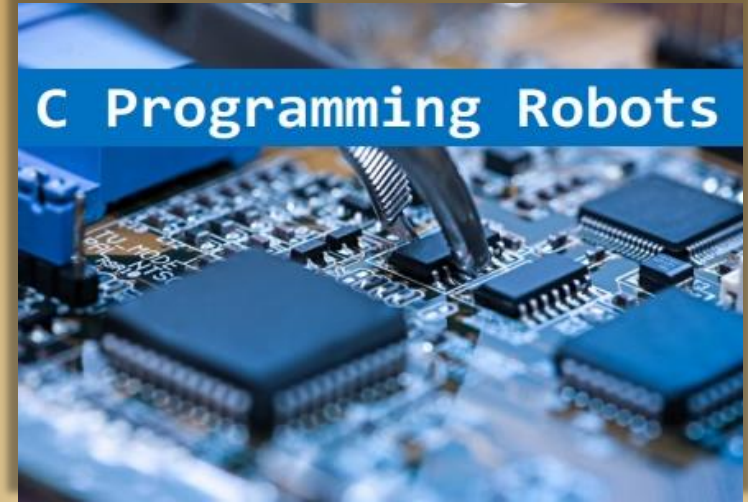
Could robots ever take over the world? Maybe not, but these machines are becoming more and more capable. Just how do humans and robots differ? Can robots actually see, play soccer, vacuum the living room, or collect the trash? As you and your teammates design and build your own robot, you will also learn basic robot technology.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT – 1:1 CONTACT

- **Academic Skills – First Year students**
  - Staff & Student coaches 1:1
  - Fall - First gen and Bridge students
  - Spring - Focused effort on GPA <2.0 students
- GPS & English faculty 1:1 academic progress meetings

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ACADEMIC SUPPORT - CRM

- **Starfish Application**
  - Allows staff and faculty to alert retention partners for at risk students
  - Student voluntary appointment scheduling – 6000+ Fall 2018
  - 569 alerts
  - 289 interventions

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CAMPUS SUPPORT FOR STUDENT RETENTION

- **Student Employment**
  - 2,038 students work on campus Fall 2018
  - 74% (Fall 2017) first year students working on campus retained

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CAMPUS SUPPORT FOR STUDENT RETENTION

- **Staff Training**
  - Safe Zone Training – LGBTQ
  - Veteran Educator Training – Veterans
- **Faculty Training**
  - Mountain Lion Teaching & Learning Day
  - Faculty Resource Center
- **Town Halls**
  - Four conducted with focus on student success, well-being, retention, and graduation
  - Led by Chancellor & VCs

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4 YEAR GRADUATION INCENTIVE – WHAT'S NEXT?

- **Chancellor's Merit Scholarship**
  - Started 2016/17
  - 80.7% retention 2017/18
  - Incentivizes four year graduation
  - $2,500/year for four years
  - 1,149 students received $2.7M last year
  - Will measure impact on graduation with 2016 cohort

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DEGREE PLANNING – WHAT'S NEXT

- **Scheduler**
  - Semester by semester
  - Provides visualization that fits how students see their schedule
  - Eases registration b/c dumps to shopping cart for registration
  - Soft rollout and still got 25% uptake
  - Hard rollout planned for next year

- **Planner**
  - Multi-year degree planning fits our demographic
    - *Build and compare 4 yr vs 6 yr plan*
    - *Flexible for credit hrs/semester*
  - Transfer student support includes courses and credits earned
  - College of Business pilot

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