

**Follow Up to August 9, 2019 Question
From Trustee Fred Moses**

Re: Student Success Metrics Related to Student Housing

Question:

Trustee Fred Moses Requested Metrics Regarding the Connection Between Student Success and On-Campus Student Housing

Answer:

As shown below, San Diego State University and University of Maryland have published data on their respective web sites regarding student success and on-campus housing. Other institutions in Texas also reflected positively on the benefits of living on campus.

- **San Diego State University:** “SDSU has found that students who live on campus have a higher GPA and are more likely to stay in school than those off-campus. Residential students who live on campus for **two (2) years have a continuation rate to junior year of 90%**; those who live on for one (1) year have a continuation rate of 70%; and students who live off campus have a continuation rate of 58%. Residential students living in a learning community at SDSU are **twice as likely to graduate** in four years than their non-learning community residential peers. **Residential students averaged a 2.81 GPA** while off-campus students averaged a 2.36. Residential students living in one of the learning communities averaged a 2.89 GPA.”
https://housing.sdsu.edu/student_success/default.aspx
- **University of Maryland:** Research exploring retention and graduation rates has found a strong relationship between on-campus housing and graduation. In a University of Maryland study, students who lived on campus for at least their freshman year were **22% more likely to graduate** within four years than students who lived off campus. Students who lived on campus for even one year were **10% more likely to graduate in six years**. A review of the data also shows that living on campus for the first two years was most critical to graduating in four or six years. <http://www.reslife.umd.edu/hsp/academicsuccess/>
- **University of Texas at El Paso:** “Students who live on campus are more likely to graduate on time, have a higher GPA and be more satisfied with their college experience than students who live off campus. The close proximity to both classes and campus resources makes it easier to balance studies, recreation and socializing.” <http://www.utep.student-affairs/housing/future-residents/Why-Live-On-Campus.html>
- **Texas A&M University:** “Living on campus gives students an academic edge. According to the American Council on Education, studies show that students who reside on campus

- Achieve higher GPAs than their off-campus peers;
- Report a higher degree of satisfaction with the college experience;
- Have higher retention and graduation rates;
- Are more likely to succeed in college and complete a bachelor's degree in four years
- Have more positive self-images, as well as enhanced self-confidence, public-speaking ability, and self-reliance;
- Participate in more extracurricular activities (a fact especially important to business recruiters and particularly true for Texas A&M)

In addition, students who live on campus have built-in resources and opportunities, such as student leadership and sustainability.”

<https://reslife.tamu.edu/living/>

- **UT San Antonio:** “Retention rates for UTSA students living on campus are consistently higher than for those who live off-campus, especially first-generation students, who make up nearly half of our undergraduate population. Providing more students the opportunity to live on campus—closer to classes, laboratories, libraries, advisors, fellow students, and campus amenities—enables greater access to academic and support programs that enhance student success.

The experience of living on campus with peers teaches students skills that are important for their future, such as collaboration, conflict resolution, resilience, and independence. Access to a rich community of live-in professional staff, resident assistants, and education programming ensures students quickly develop a sense of belonging that eases their transition into life on campus.”

<https://www.utsa.edu/today/2018/10/story/NewHousingDevelopment.html>

- **West Texas A&M University:** In addition to making similar positive statements regarding the benefits of on-campus student housing, their website provides the following references that support their claims. ACUHO-I. (1998). The Residential Nexus: A Focus on Student Learning. Setting New Directions by Making New Connections. In-Class Instruction/Out-of-Class Learning.

<https://www.wtamu.edu/student-life/benefits-of-on-campus-housing.aspx>

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Resource:

Kim Davison

Chief of Staff

kdavison@collin.edu

972-985-3781