Path to Student Success: from need to concept to course

Teresa Brooks   **Ajay Patel**   **Daryl Smith**
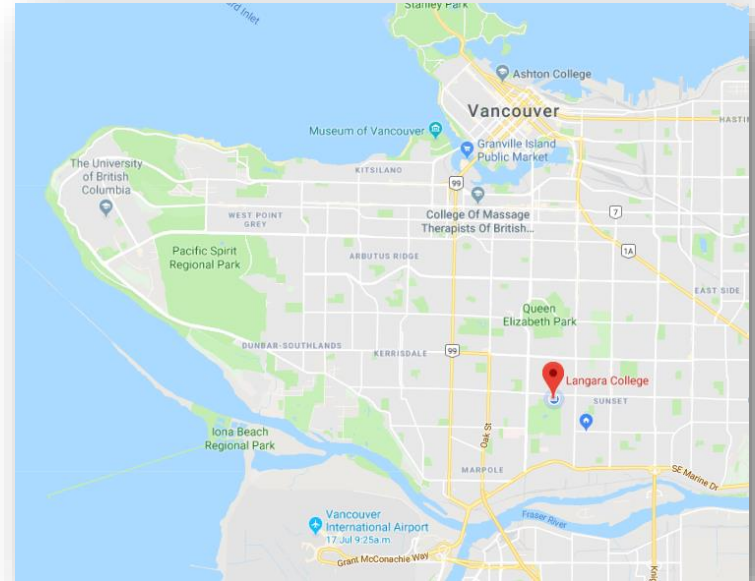
June 19, 2018
BCCIE Summer Conference
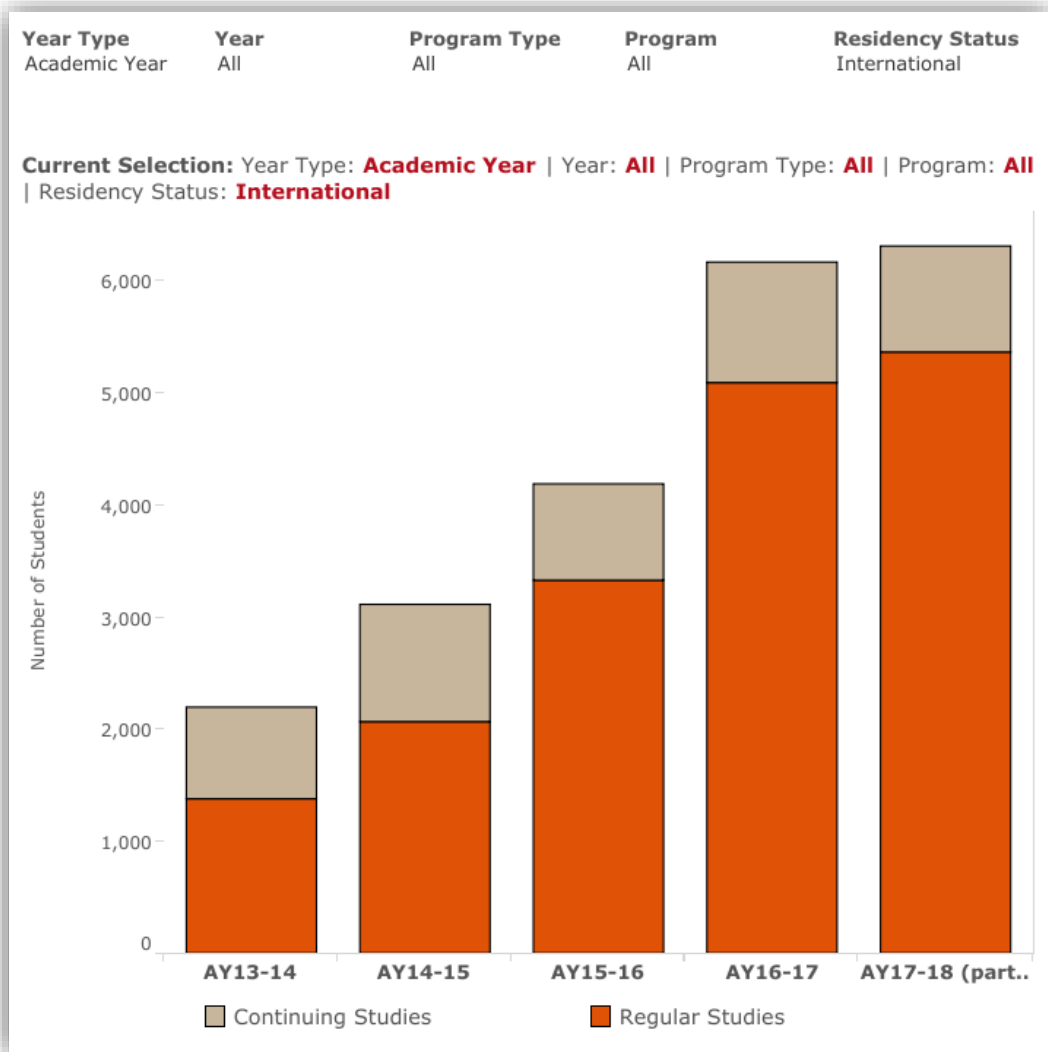
Langara.

Agenda

- Introduction to Langara
- Need

  ↓

- Concept

  ↓

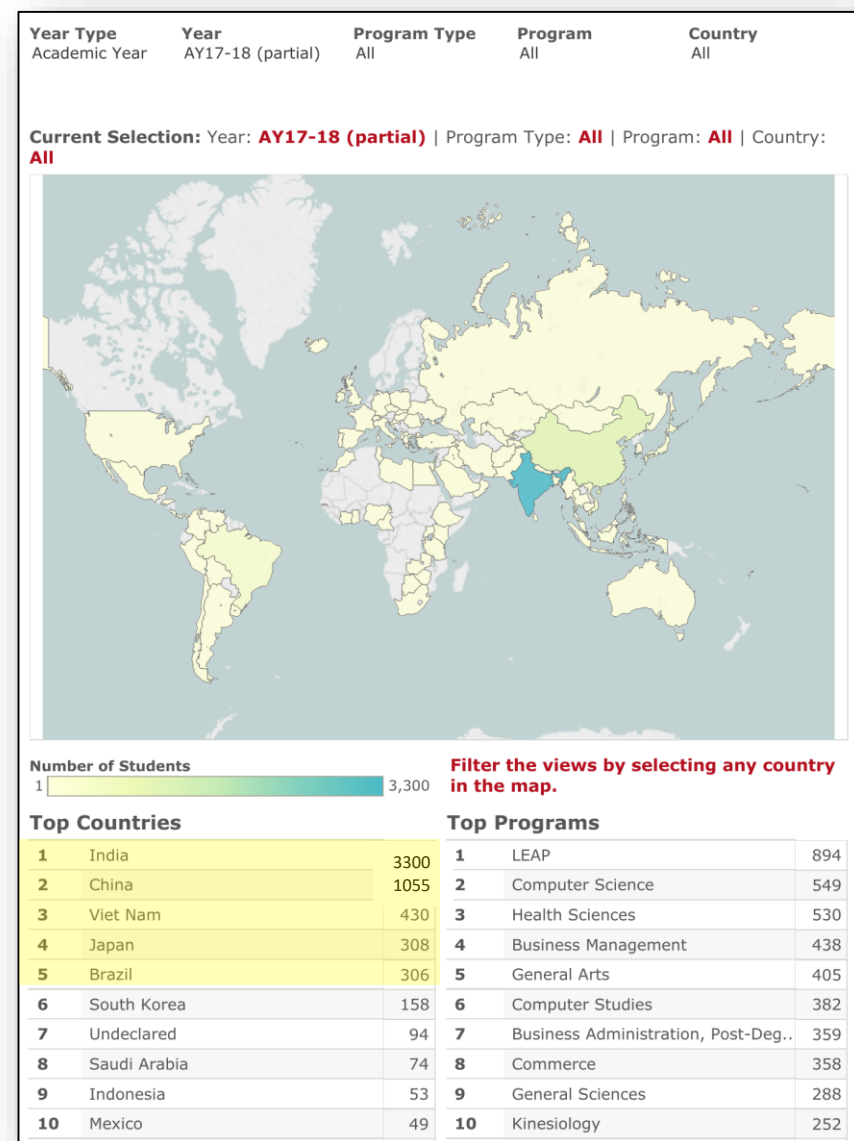- Course: Langara Student Success Course (LSSC)
- Q&A

Langara College

Located on the unceded traditional territory of the Musqueam First Nation

BCCIE SUMMER CONFERENCE

snəẃeyəɬ leləm̓
house of teachings

The Need: Increases in International Student #s

Year Type	Year	Program Type	Program	Residency Status
Academic Year	All	All	All	International

Current Selection: Year Type: **Academic Year** | Year: **All** | Program Type: **All** | Program: **All** | Residency Status: **International**

- 2013-14: Total students 2189
  - Regular Studies
    - 1360 - Non-Post Degree
    - 19 – Post Degree
  - Continuing Studies
    - 807 – LEAP (ESL)
    - 3 – Other
- 2017-18 (partial): Total students 6295
  - Regular Studies
    - 4519 – Non Post Degree
    - 831 – Post Degree
  - Continuing Studies
    - 894 – LEAP (ESL)
    - 51 – Other

Langara.
THE COLLEGE OF HIGHER LEARNING.

Need: Change in International Student Demographic – 2013/14 to 2017/18

Left panel (AY13-14):

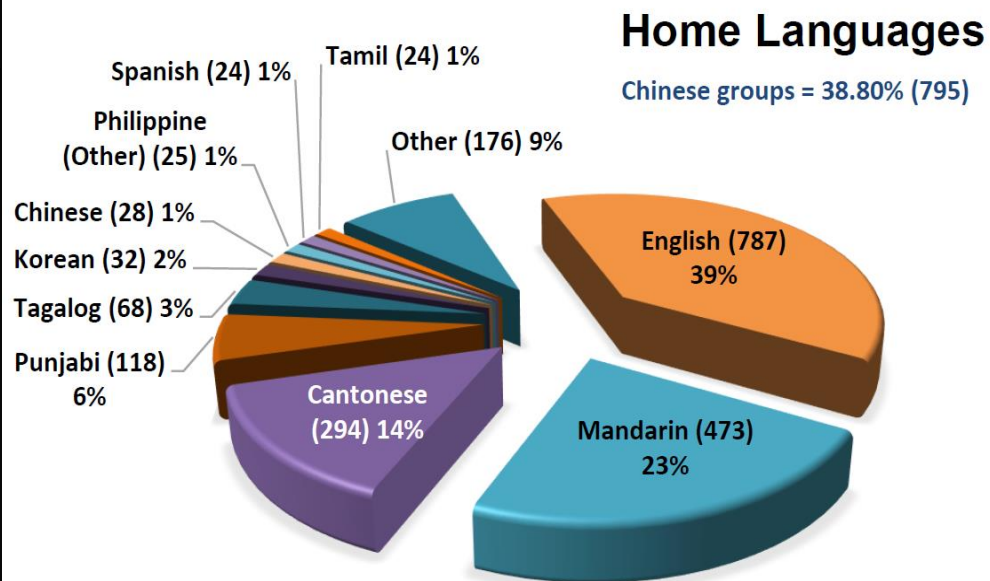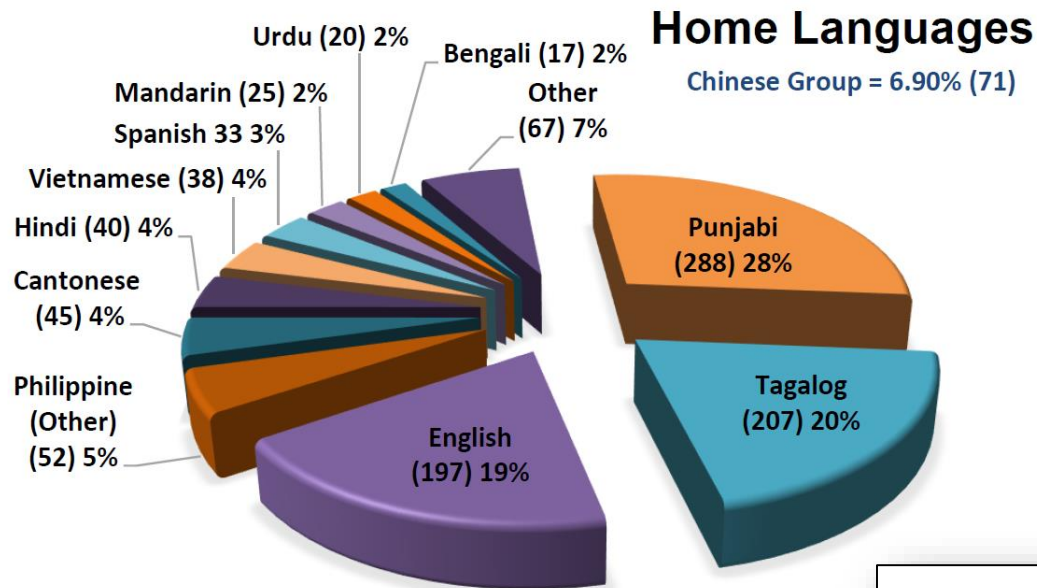| Year Type	Year	Program Type	Program	Country
Academic Year	AY13-14	All	All	All

Current Selection: Year: **AY13-14** | Program Type: **All** | Program: **All** | Country: **All**

Number of Students: 1 — 1,309

Filter the views by selecting any country in the map.

Top Countries

1	China	1309
2	Japan	178
3	South Korea	138
4	India	71
5	Saudi Arabia	64
6	Brazil	52
7	Hong Kong	50
8	Taiwan	38
9	Indonesia	37
10	Viet Nam	29

Top Programs

	LEAP	807
2	General Arts	441
3	Commerce	339
4	General Sciences	131
5	Computer Science	56
6	Psychology	35
7	Environmental Studies	32
8	BBA: Business Management	26
9	General Social Sciences	26
10	Health Sciences	24

Right panel (AY17-18 partial):

Year Type	Year	Program Type	Program	Country
Academic Year	AY17-18 (partial)	All	All	All

Current Selection: Year: **AY17-18 (partial)** | Program Type: **All** | Program: **All** | Country: **All**

Number of Students: 1 — 3,300

Filter the views by selecting any country in the map.

Top Countries

1	India	3300
2	China	1055
3	Viet Nam	430
4	Japan	308
5	Brazil	306
6	South Korea	158
7	Undeclared	94
8	Saudi Arabia	74
9	Indonesia	53
10	Mexico	49

Top Programs

1	LEAP	894
2	Computer Science	549
3	Health Sciences	530
4	Business Management	438
5	General Arts	405
6	Computer Studies	382
7	Business Administration, Post-Deg..	359
8	Commerce	358
9	General Sciences	288
10	Kinesiology	252

The Need: Shift in Local Student Demographics

Home Languages

Chinese Group = 6.90% (71)

Urdu (20) 2%
Bengali (17) 2%
Other (67) 7%
Mandarin (25) 2%
Spanish 33 3%
Vietnamese (38) 4%
Hindi (40) 4%
Cantonese (45) 4%
Philippine (Other) (52) 5%
Punjabi (288) 28%
Tagalog (207) 20%
English (197) 19%

John Oliver Secondary School
2014-15 VSB Data

Home Languages

Chinese groups = 38.80% (795)

Spanish (24) 1%
Tamil (24) 1%
Philippine (Other) (25) 1%
Other (176) 9%
Chinese (28) 1%
Korean (32) 2%
Tagalog (68) 3%
Punjabi (118) 6%
English (787) 39%
Cantonese (294) 14%
Mandarin (473) 23%

Sir Winston Secondary School
2014-15 VSB Data

The Need: Students' Academic Transitions

- Seeing a change in students

- Students less prepared

- As international student numbers increased, more students seemingly had a tougher time adjusting

- Demographic from our high schools are also changing

The Need: Faculty

- Inquiry and support requests from the International Education Department

- Individual academic areas undertaking their own initiatives

- Other initiatives taking place across campus

A Concept: 'Langara 101'

- March 2015: IE made a proposal to then VP Academic for a "Langara 101" course for international students

- Vision:
  - face-to-face
  - for new international students a
  - academic & study skills
  - increasing self-awareness

- Challenges:
  - Did not engage faculty support
  - Model was unsustainable

Faculty Connection

- Summer 2015: Consultation with Kyra Garson

- Summer 2015: Asst Dept Chair for Biology connected with IE

- May 2016: Hiring the Intercultural Initiatives Coordinator

NEW Concept: Student Success Course

- Development of Langara Student Success Course (LSSC) for **ALL** students

- Faculty/staff engaged in discussion and dialogue

- A proposal was jointly submitted to senior administration and was approved (Faculty & International Education)
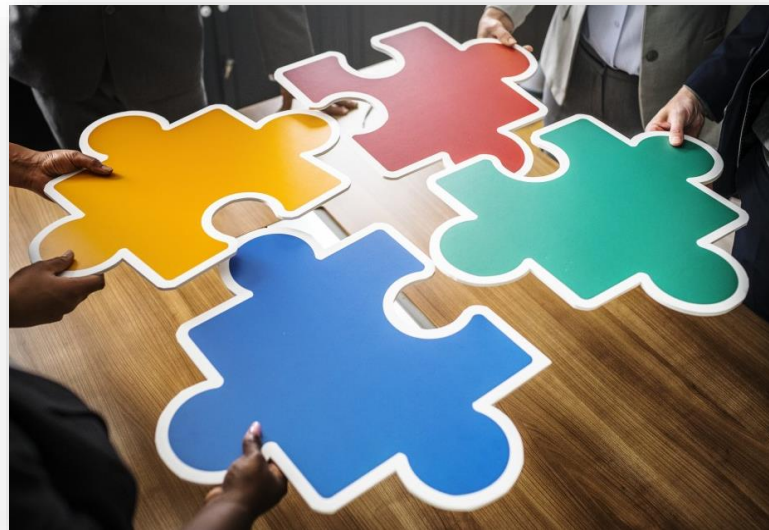
The Concept: What is the LSSC?

- Online course to prepare students for academic life at Langara
- To support all students through their adjustment and transition into post secondary education and develop appropriate academic and life skills for academic success
- Automatic enrollment for all first-year students (Opt-out vs Opt-in)
- Free, non-credit

- Video: https://youtu.be/Vn8a7oZNNYI

BCCIE
SUMMER
CONFERENCE

Langara.
THE COLLEGE OF HIGHER LEARNING.

The Concept: Truly Collaborative

- Working group:

  TCDC & IE
  - Intercultural Initiatives Coordinator
  - Curriculum Consultants
  - Dept Chair, Ed Tech
  - Assoc Director, International Student Services

- Support from:
  - Academic Innovation
  - Library
  - Writing Centre
  - Counselling Services
  - Educational Technology
  - Office of Student Engagement
  - Student Conduct Office
  - Health Services
  - Communications & Marketing
  - Various faculty, staff and students

BCCIE
SUMMER
CONFERENCE

Langara.
THE COLLEGE OF HIGHER LEARNING.

Course Features

"As engaging as YouTube"

- Aural and visual over text
- Comics
- Videos
- Animations
- Polls
- Low text
- Based on principles of universal design for learning (UDL)

Units

1. Preparing for Academic Success
2. Understanding Classroom Expectations
3. Communicating with your Instructors
4. Managing your Time
5. Developing Intercultural Skills for a Diverse Campus
6. Succeeding on Test and Exams
7. What You Need to Know About Plagiarism
8. The ABCs (& FNWs) of Academic Standing

Self-Regulated Learning, Grit, Growth Mind

Self-Regulated Learning

Grit

Growth Mindset

Overall Message

- This will be tough

- It is tough for everyone

- When things get difficult, the following units offer some resources and tips to help you get through

Yeager, Duckworth, Dweck et al. PNAS 2016 Jun 14;113(24):E3341-8

Comparison of average grade from lab midterm in Fall 2015 to Fall 2016

BIOL 1115	Fall 2015 (4 sections) n=135	Fall 2016 (6 Sections) n=203
LSSC	N/A	72.0%
Lab Midterm	61.7%	65.7%
Overall GPA	2.1 (all sections)	2.4 (all sections)

"Overall impression is that students in the lab are doing better."

"I think your course is working."

"Efforts made for international students are improving outcomes for all students."

Langara.
THE COLLEGE OF HIGHER LEARNING.

Post – Pre Self Assessment

Asked students to assess their own learning based a post-pre reflection on learning outcomes.
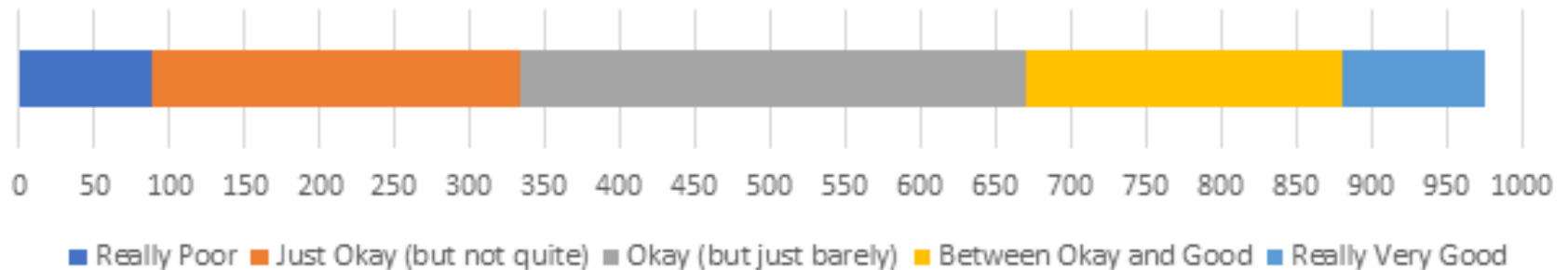https://www.sfu.ca/istld/resources/postpre.html

Knowing what you know now about classroom expectations at Langara, rate your abilities before and after completing the unit based on the following scale.
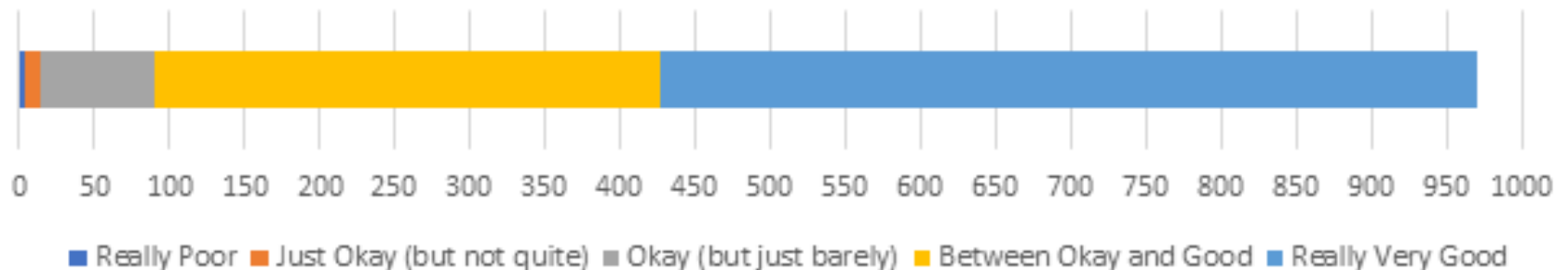
1-Really poor

2-Just okay, but not quite

3-Okay, but just barely

4-Between okay and good
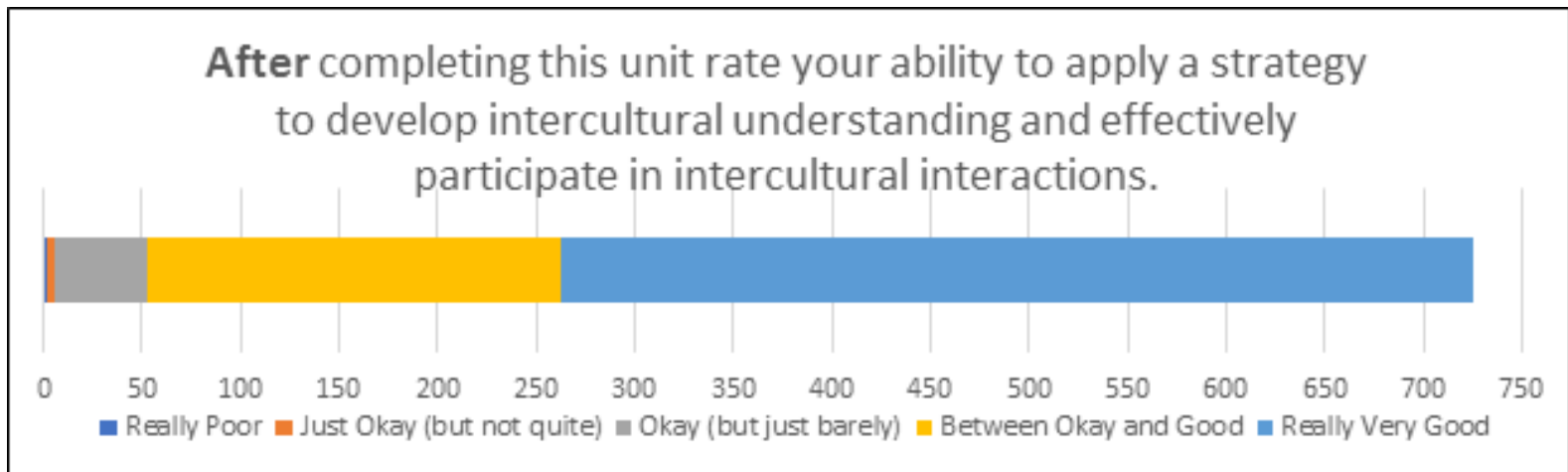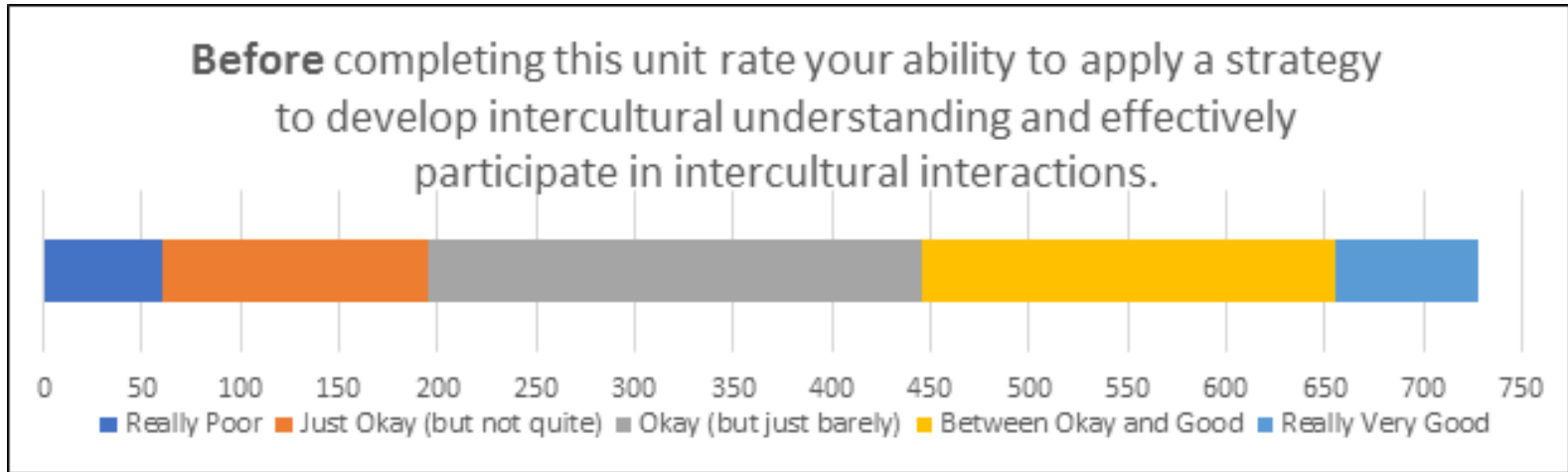
5-Really very good

Post – Pre Student Feedback

Before completing this unit rate your ability to calculate your time commitments over a typical week.

■ Really Poor ■ Just Okay (but not quite) ■ Okay (but just barely) ■ Between Okay and Good ■ Really Very Good

After completing this unit rate your ability to calculate your time commitments over a typical week.

■ Really Poor ■ Just Okay (but not quite) ■ Okay (but just barely) ■ Between Okay and Good ■ Really Very Good

Langara.
THE COLLEGE OF HIGHER LEARNING.

Post – Pre Student Feedback

Before completing this unit rate your ability to apply a strategy to develop intercultural understanding and effectively participate in intercultural interactions.

■ Really Poor ■ Just Okay (but not quite) ■ Okay (but just barely) ■ Between Okay and Good ■ Really Very Good

After completing this unit rate your ability to apply a strategy to develop intercultural understanding and effectively participate in intercultural interactions.

■ Really Poor ■ Just Okay (but not quite) ■ Okay (but just barely) ■ Between Okay and Good ■ Really Very Good

Langara.
THE COLLEGE OF HIGHER LEARNING.

LSSC Student Feedback

*"Seeing the videos from **teachers and students perspective** really helps to have a successful mindset."*

*"I think all the units were **very helpful and informative**. I think the ones about participating more in class and getting to know your fellow students is very important. I do not participate a lot in class **because I am a shy person but after reading how important it is I will definitely try my best to ask and answer more questions**."*

*"The part about doing some of your **work ahead of time**, I never thought about that but it would be a great way to be **less stressed** and give myself more time to ask the teacher questions about homework."*

Pilot Phase &
New Developments Fall 2018

- Piloted in 6 semesters from fall 2016 to summer 2018
- Delivered to approximately 3700 students
  - Biology,
  - Computer Science and Information Systems,
  - Langara School of Management,
  - Modern Languages, Economics,
  - Psychology
  - Web and Mobile App Design and Development
- 2.5% – 5% of grade
- This summer, the course will move out of pilot phase and be delivered to all new students starting in fall 2018

Fall 2018 - In Conjunction with New Student Orientation (NSO)

- Delivered pre-arrival

- Free

- Non-credit course

- All new incoming student starting in Fall 2018

- In conjunction with the New Student Orientation (NSO) and Office for Student Engagement

- Through this combined effort, we hope to increase a **sense of belonging**

Incentives and Budget

- Draw at NSO for $1000 tuition credits
  - Attend NSO
  - Successfully complete LSSC by Aug 20th
- $50 Gift Card to Bookstore for all students that successfully complete course

  - Gift card to be picked up at the Office for Student Engagement (HUB)

- Overall budget of around $500,000
  - Includes funding for a faculty position and instructional assistant

What do students have to say?

"I never heard about the concept of plagiarism in my home country. After learning the student success course, I understood what's plagiarism, why to avoid it and how to avoid it, and I believe this unit has proved to be most beneficial for me to be successful at Langara." **- Sharmilee, Science**

"I really liked the study tips and time management that really improved my learning skills." **- Giselle, Peace & Conflict Studies**

"The most important thing I could learn from my student success course is the tips about interacting with other students and the class room expectations. It helped me to realize the standards to gain knowledge and to present it with the help of the criteria given." **- Pinaki, Business Administration**

Three take-aways...

1. Find your champions and give them resources

2. Engage all areas of the institute (i.e. create a interdisciplinary team to ensure sustainability)

3. Develop a course as "engaging as Youtube" (i.e. find creative ways to make it available to students and incentivize completion).

Thank you for attending our presentation!

Questions:

Teresa Brooks
Associate Director
Int'l Student Services
tbrooks@langara.ca

Ajay Patel
Vice-President
External Development
apatel@langara.ca

Daryl Smith
Intercultural Initiatives
Coordinator
dsmith@langara.ca

BCCIE
SUMMER
CONFERENCE

Langara.
THE COLLEGE OF HIGHER LEARNING.