How the academy can support institutional efforts to improve retention and completion

Faculty play a critical role in shaping the student experience but are surprisingly underserved as allies in student success strategy. Here are six key ways that academic units and individual faculty members can help students successfully navigate their academic careers.

1. Addressing Curricular Barriers to Completion
   - Decisions about curricula are often made within departmental silos, underestimating or even ignoring their institution-wide impact on student success and effort to improve retention and completion.

2. Redesigning Academic Policies
   - Rules and regulations that govern degree planning, course registration, and advising can unecessarily force students to off track. How can we identify and adjust these obstacles?

3. Evolving Academic Advising Models
   - Helping students register for courses is only the tip of the iceberg—faculty and staff advisors are now expected to counsel, coach, and intervene with struggling students on a regular basis. How can we equip academic units and individual faculty members to help students register for courses is only the tip of the iceberg—faculty and staff advisors are now expected to counsel, coach, and intervene with struggling students on a regular basis. How can we encourage more faculty to innovate in the classroom?

4. Enhancing the Learning Experience
   - It’s clear that great teachers have an outsized impact on students’ success in college and in their careers. How can we encourage more faculty to innovate in the classroom?

5. Flagging Signs of Student Risk
   - By tracking student attendance, performance, and engagement in class, faculty can help inform your early intervention strategy. How can we use better data and technologies, performance, and engagement in class, faculty can help inform your early intervention strategy. How can we use better data and technologies, and the consequences of proposed curricular changes.

6. Mentoring Rising-Risk Student Groups
   - Help students register for courses is only the tip of the iceberg—faculty and staff advisors are now expected to counsel, coach, and intervene with struggling students on a regular basis. How can we encourage more faculty to innovate in the classroom?