Campus Connectors Expansion
Pioneers for HOPE Learning Framework

What is the Campus Connectors Pioneers for HOPE Expansion?

The Campus Connectors Pioneers for HOPE Learning Framework expansion is an expansion of the Campus Connectors mentoring program. The expansion is being implemented as the second year of a two-year project funded by the Stupski Foundation to investigate and identify strategies that support CSU East Bay students to make academic progress and complete their degrees. The program is two-pronged, with a mentoring component to support students and a Faculty Learning Community (FLC) to help faculty by providing tools to better support and mentor students.

“I wish for freshman we had more like awareness for our classes that are like Major and stuff because I feel like there could have been a way I could have known earlier that chemistry wasn’t for me. And I wish that there was a way to find that out…”

-student participant

The Mentors & Learning Framework Team

We have 26 Mentors on staff, and they are comprised of 8 faculty members, 9 staff members and 9 graduate students at CSU East Bay. Mentoring positions are also open to CSU alumni.

The Learning Framework team is co-led by Dr. Edward Inch, Provost and Principal Investigator and Dr. Sarah Taylor, Co-Investigator and Associate Professor in Social Work. Ms. Ali Jones-Bey serves as the full-time Project Coordinator and works closely with 6 undergraduate and graduate Student Research Assistants, an undergraduate student adviser, and 12 faculty, staff, and administrator collaborators representing 10 different offices and academic departments on campus.
Expansion Approach

In the first year, we built a diverse team of stakeholders to conduct a needs assessment of barriers and facilitators of student success. In the second year, we are piloting the program will serve as an expansion of the Campus Connectors program. That program is in its fourth year and currently serves 289 first-year students living in campus housing. The expansion differs in the population served, use of alums and graduate students as mentors, enhanced mentor training, and emphasis on goal setting and warm hand-offs to help students access campus services. The existing Campus Connectors program and this new expansion will operate in close collaboration, sharing ideas, tools, and resources for the benefit, expansion, and sustainability of both programs. The first year expansion will serve 40 students. Goals of the program are to expand to eventually serve all 15,000 students attending CSU East Bay.

I wish I was able to talk to an advisor about my major for the classes I’m taking like a very deep talk with them about what like is this what you want to do...

-student participant