Momentum Summit IV

Fuller Schedules
February 25, 2021
USG Momentum Year

Making a *purposeful* program choice

Creating a *productive* Academic Mindset

Attempting the first 30 hours of a *Clear Pathway*

Attempting 9 hours in Academic Focus

Complete initial *English* and *Math*
USG Momentum Approach

Deepening *purposeful* choices

Cultivating *productive* Academic Mindsets

Maintaining *full* momentum along a *Clear Pathway*

Heightening academic engagement

Completing
So many brownies
IMPACT OF EARLY MOMENTUM

Students attempting at least 15 credit hours in the first term maintain their momentum through 18 terms of enrollment and earn more credits compared to students taking fewer hours in the first term.

Hagood (2018), Momentum Analysis: Updated Momentum Groups & Course Load Combinations, University System of Georgia
MOMENTUM SCHEDULES

While the most favorable outcomes are observed for those who take double momentum course loads, it seems to be more important for students to end the first year with momentum rather than simply begin the year with momentum.

Students who are likely earn a smaller portion of their attempted credits might be better off staring the fall term with 12-14 hours and then moving toward momentum course loads in the spring and summer terms.

Hagood (2018), Momentum Analysis: Updated Momentum Groups & Course Load Combinations, University System of Georgia
IMPACT OF EARLY MOMENTUM

Hagood (2019) used propensity score matching (PSM) to estimate the average treatment effect of taking at least 15 credit hours in the first semester compared to taking 12-14 credits as well as the effect of taking at least 30 hours in the first year relative to less than 30 hours in the first year.

• Students are 6.1 percentage points more likely to graduate within six years if they attempt at least 15 credits in the first term compared to only 12-14 credits.

• Students are 13.0 percentage points more likely to graduate if they attempt at least 30 credits in the first year instead of less than 30 hours.
## Effect of Momentum Schedules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits Attempted Term 1</th>
<th>Credits Attempted Term 2</th>
<th>Graduation Rate (150% of time)</th>
<th>Momentum Direction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15+</td>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
<td>↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>15+</td>
<td>36.6%</td>
<td>↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15+</td>
<td>15+</td>
<td>41.1%</td>
<td>↑</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Hagood, USG, 2018
## Effect of Momentum Schedules

### Comprehensive Universities

<table>
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<th>Credits Attempted Term 2</th>
<th>Graduation Rate (150% of time)</th>
<th>Momentum Direction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>46.9%</td>
<td>↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15+</td>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>52.0%</td>
<td>⬇</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>15+</td>
<td>61.7%</td>
<td>⬆</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15+</td>
<td>15+</td>
<td>69.9%</td>
<td>↑</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Hagood, USG, 2018
USG Momentum Year
Making a purposeful program choice
Creating a productive Academic Mindset
Attempting the first 30 hours of a Clear Pathway
Attempting 9 hours in Academic Focus
Complete initial English and Math
For part time students with family and work obligations, a full-time schedule may not be appropriate, but a **fuller** schedule may have very real benefits. Research indicates increased credit taking can lead to greater student engagement, higher rates of use for support services, and higher graduation rates for part-time students. Regardless of intensity, part time students should know how long their program will take at the intensity that they are pursuing.
IMPACT OF A FULLER SCHEDULE

A fuller schedule can mean graduating 4 years earlier!
FULLER SCHEDULES

Increasing credit intensity by one course
• Makes students more students
• Increases the opportunities for engagement, interactions with services and faculty
• Counterintuitively, increases grade outcomes across the schedule

Limitations
• Students who work in excess of 25 hours may not have time
  – Intentional conversations around work and school
• Academically less-prepared students may need carefully structured schedules
  – Scaffolding is as important as scheduling
Strategies to Fuller Schedules

In the Field
- Communications Strategies/Campaigns
- Default 15-credit schedules
- 3+2 scheduling
- Block Scheduling
- Program Maps

On the Horizon
- Advance term scheduling (Spring+Fall)
- Banner Self-service warning
- Smart defaults around courses

But…
- Expect resistance (and it’s OK)
We’ve been seeing progress..
FTF Credit Intensity by Sector, Fall 2012-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>15+</th>
<th>12-14</th>
<th>&gt;12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Universities</td>
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<td>Comprehensive Universities</td>
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<td>State Universities</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Colleges</td>
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<tr>
<td>System Total</td>
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</table>

[Bar chart showing credit intensity by sector from 2012 to 2020.]
In Fall 2020, enrollment increased modestly, but at twice the rated of FTE – more students were taking fewer credits

It’s not a crisis, but it is visible...
Impact of the Pandemic

FTF Taking 15+ Credits Fall 2019 and Fall 2020 – Select Institutions
Impact of the Pandemic

FTF Taking 12-14 Credits Fall 2019 and Fall 2020 – Select Institutions
Impact of the Pandemic

Undergraduates Taking 15+ Credits Fall 2019 and Fall 2020 – Select Institutions
Impact of the Pandemic

Undergraduates Taking 12-14 Credits Fall 2019 and Fall 2020 – Select Institutions
Impact of the Pandemic

Undergraduates Taking >12 Credits Fall 2019 and Fall 2020 – Select Institutions
Causes & Effect

Why?
• Anxiety about hybrid/online
• Protecting GPA/HOPE
• Course availability/reduced course caps
• Virtual orientations
• Schedule uncertainty
• General uncertainty
• So much more…

So What?
• Missing key courses/holes in program maps
• Increased demand in Fall 2021 for lower division Gen Ed courses (if these students return)
• Increased exit points
• Key courses now out of sequence (need a course next fall, not offered until 2022)
• Not “sticky”
Momentum Summit IV