

# STRONG WORKFORCE INSTITUTE: RETHINKING THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE FOR RETENTION AND SUCCESS

An institute hosted by the San Diego-Imperial Regional Consortium

## BACKGROUND

The SWP Institute is a new professional learning opportunity for faculty. SWP Institute participants will:

- Learn more about their students, specifically about their retention, persistence, and success outcomes;
- Apply the knowledge gained from completing an investigative project to better connect with students; and
- Develop an action plan to implement their ideas in the classroom

Between Spring 2020 and Fall 2020, faculty will attend two in-person learning events and conduct a project (investigative research and action plan) in collaboration with researchers at their campuses. Faculty will receive a \$2,000 stipend for attending both events and completing the project. Funding will be available through a Request for Applications (RFA) to support and build the research capacity at each campus.

## STATUS REPORT

**Before designing the specific details of the SWP Institute, the Regional Consortium presented the concept to, and received feedback from, key stakeholders:** San Diego Imperial Counties Community Colleges Association (SDICCCA), Regional Oversight Committee (ROC), Workforce Development Council (WDC), Deans Council, Public Information Officers (PIOs), Data & Research Committee, and institutional researchers.

**There are 16 project team members and 20 advisory group members, with representation from each college in the region, including faculty and researchers.** The project team is responsible for designing the details of the SWP Institute and the advisory group is responsible for providing feedback on the design.

**To determine what researchers need to prepare for the institute, the project team must finalize the investigative project first.** The project design will determine what will be requested of researchers in the RFA. The project team had a kickoff meeting on June 21 and worked on the investigative project design since then. A first draft is expected to be completed by August 14, 2019.

**The first in-person (kickoff) event was originally scheduled for September 27, 2019; however, to give researchers ample time to prepare for the SWP Institute, the kickoff event will be rescheduled to February 2020.**

## PROJECT TIMELINE

Date	Activity	Objective
Aug 9, 2019	Status update presented to Deans Council and WDC	Finalize February 2020 kickoff event date
Aug 14, 2019	First draft of investigative project completed	Get feedback from advisory group (e.g., deans, researchers, faculty)
Aug 29, 2019	Feedback due	Investigative project revised based on feedback
Sep 9, 2019	Presentation to SDICCCA	Provide status update on RFA and SWP Institute
Sep 17, 2019	Presentation to ROC	Provide status update on RFA and SWP Institute
Sep 23, 2019	RFA released	RFA updated and released based on feedback
Nov 22, 2019	RFA responses due	Initial funding released upon receipt and approval of complete applications
Dec 2, 2019 – Jan 31, 2020	Researchers prepare for SWP Institute	Data pulled and compiled to help faculty complete the investigative research portion of the project
Feb 2020	First in-person learning event	Faculty understand the SWP Institute's expectations and how to complete the project
Feb 2020 - Jun 2020	Faculty work on the project collaboratively with researchers	Faculty complete the project, with specific sections/milestones due monthly
Sep 2020	Second in-person learning event	Share lessons learned and promising practices

## PROJECT TEAM MEMBERS

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## ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS

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\*In progress of scheduling briefings with these members