

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**PRESENTATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA:**  
**“UNIVERSITY OF IOWA’S USE OF MAP-WORKS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS”**

**Action Requested:** Receive the presentation.

**Executive Summary:** MAP-Works (Making Achievement Possible Works) is an early-alert system used campus-wide at the University of Iowa. Using students’ pre-collegiate data and students’ responses to a survey about their transition to college, the system identifies students’ strengths and obstacles as they relate to academic performance and attrition. MAP-Works helps students better understand their transition to the university, what challenges lie ahead, and what resources are available to help meet those challenges. The University of Iowa is currently in its third year of using MAP-Works as a tool for student success. The presenters will include Mirra Anson and Danielle Martinez who serve on the campus leadership team for MAP-Works and Graduate Assistant Ben Walizer. They will provide an overview of the initiative and relevant data from the previous and current years.

Many students need support and challenge during their college journey and MAP-Works helps the university to connect to those students early in their journey.

- ⇒ Students will be able to identify at least two staff members who are committed to their success at Iowa through the MAP-Works system.
- ⇒ At risk-students will receive multiple opportunities to connect with campus resources and support based on their survey responses.
- ⇒ The MAP-Works Leadership Team will provide timely student data information to departments and colleges to help inform their student interactions and programmatic efforts.
- ⇒ Through their web-based customized report, students learn the differences between their expectations and academic and social behaviors necessary to succeed. Their results are compared against their peers to help them better understand their strengths and areas of growth.

Danielle Martinez serves as the Assistant Director of Retention and Early Intervention within Academic Support and Retention and the MAP-Works Campus Coordinator at the University of Iowa. Ms. Martinez earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication and Public Relations from Central Washington University and a Master of Science degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education from Colorado State University. Prior to joining the Academic Support and Retention team, she worked in Diversity and Social Justice Programs, Housing and Residence Life, and Student Success Programs at several institutions, including Colorado State University, the University of San Francisco, DePaul University, and the University of Iowa. As a University of Iowa staff member, Ms. Martinez strives to support and empower students through individualized assistance and retention initiatives.

Mirra Anson is the Director of Retention and Early Intervention within Academic Support and Retention at the University of Iowa. Ms. Anson received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and a Master of Arts in Higher Education from the University of Missouri-Columbia, and a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. She has worked in college preparedness, transition, and success initiatives for the past 14 years at a variety of institutions, including Southeast Missouri State University, St. Louis Community College, the University of Missouri-St. Louis, Missouri State University, and the University of Iowa. Ms. Anson is committed to improving educational equity and excellence for all students through research-based best practices for student success.

Ben Walizer is a Graduate Assistant in Academic Support and Retention at the University of Iowa. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and a Master of Education in Counselor Education and Student Affairs from Clemson University, and is pursuing a Ph.D. in Educational Policy and Leadership Studies from the University of Iowa. Mr. Walizer has worked with first-year programs, living-learning communities, residence life, and student success initiatives for the past five years at Texas Tech University and the University of Iowa.