



# **Successful Concurrent/Dual Enrollment Programs: An EXCErate program in OK**

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# Agenda

- Research project
  - Collaborative effort
  - EXCELerate program
  - OSRHE policy exceptions
  - Collective resources
- Findings
  - Student demographics
  - Persistence and matriculation
  - Student feedback
- Challenges and limitations
- Conclusion

# Collaborative Effort

- P-20 Council of Tulsa: promote and support education from preschool into lifelong learning
  - Local education leaders
  - One objective is to increase concurrent enrollment

# Collaborative Effort

- **EXCELeRate Participants:**
  - **TCC:** Urban; 4 campuses; 30,000 credit students annually
  - **Tulsa Public Schools:** Urban; 9 high schools; 85% free and reduced lunch
  - **Union Public Schools:** Urban; 1 high school; 62% free and reduced lunch



# EXCELeRate Program

- **Purpose:**

Expand college access to a diverse student population in local high schools through the elimination of identified barriers (e.g., transportation, financial, state policy)

# EXCELeRate Program

- Features to eliminate barriers
  - TCC courses taught at high schools
  - Free tuition and reduced fees
  - Textbooks provided by high schools
  - Broader admissions criteria from Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE)



# OSRHE Policy Exceptions

- Broader admissions criteria
  - Existing state policy
    - Juniors: ACT Composite = 21 OR High School GPA = 3.50
    - Seniors: ACT Composite = 19 OR High School GPA = 3.00
  - EXCELerate exception
    - Juniors and Seniors: ACT = 19 OR High School GPA = 2.50
- Other exceptions to support expanded college access

# Collective Resources

- TCC
  - Dean of High School Relations
  - Faculty reassigned to program
  - Internal and external research and data analysis
  - Financial commitment (\$113 per student)



- Tulsa Public Schools
  - Concurrent Coordinator
  - Will Rogers College High School
  - Financial commitment to student textbooks



- Union Public Schools
  - Principal/Concurrent Coordinator
  - Union Collegiate Academy
  - Financial commitment to student textbooks



Union Public Schools



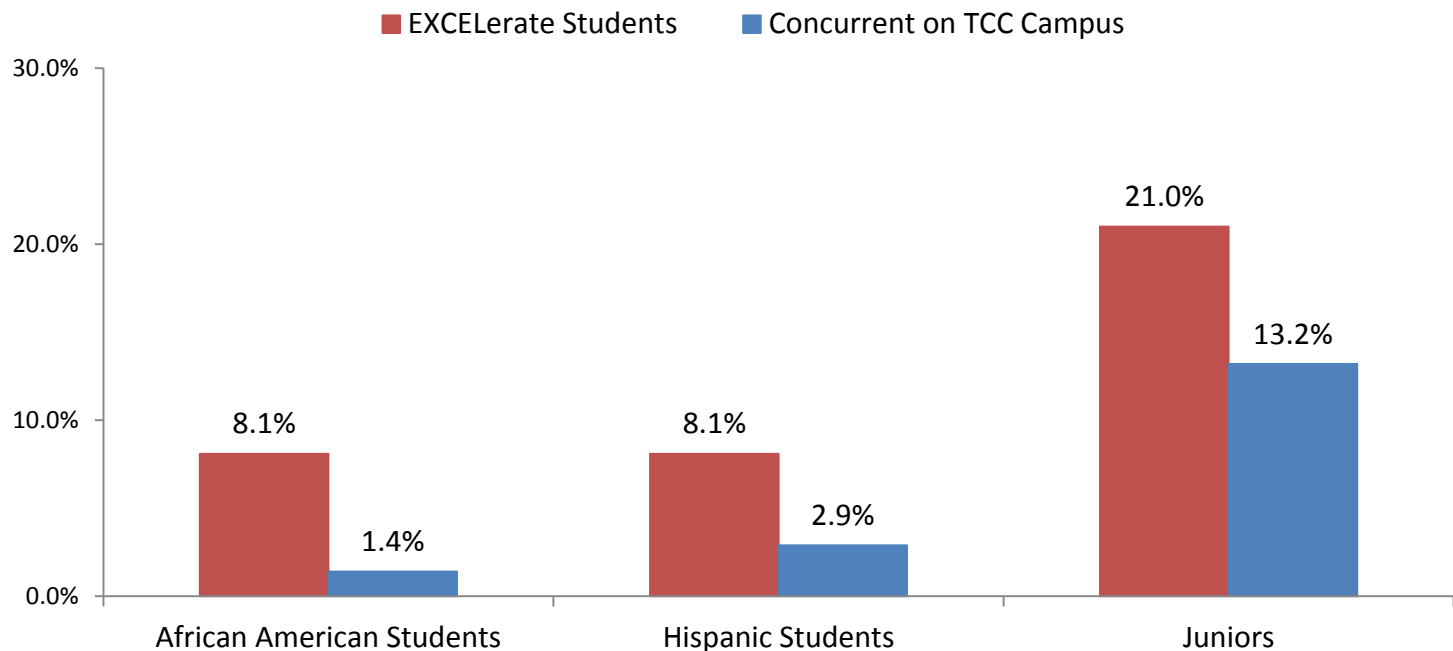
# Student Demographics

- 990 EXCErate students across four terms
  - 60% from Union, 40% from Tulsa Public Schools
  - 79% seniors, 21% juniors
  - 59% females, 39% males, 2% unknown
  - Race/ethnicity
    - 56% White
    - 8% Black or African American
    - 8% Hispanic
    - 8% More than one race
    - 4% American Indian or Alaska Native
    - 4% Asian
    - 11% unknown

# Findings: Increased Access

- Increased access to African American and Hispanic students as well as juniors, compared to concurrent students on TCC campuses

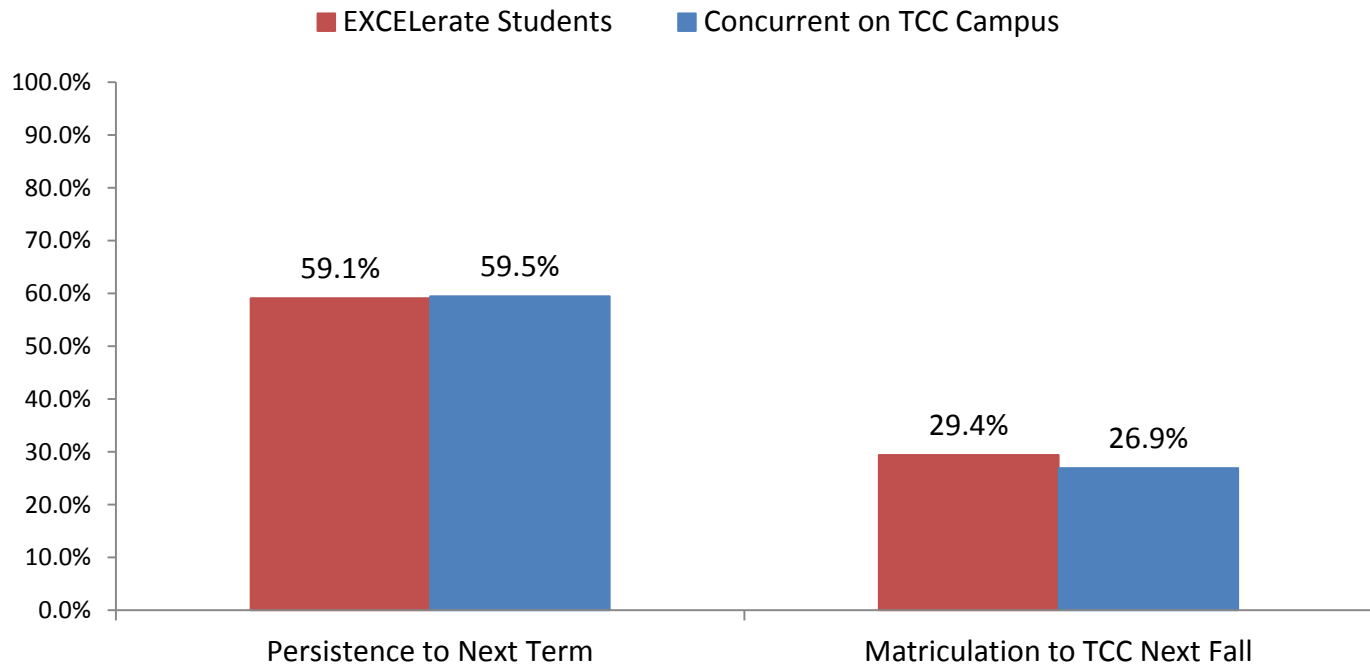
Figure 1. Demographics of Concurrent Students



# Findings: Student Success

- Comparable persistence and matriculation rates for EXCELerate and concurrent students on TCC campuses

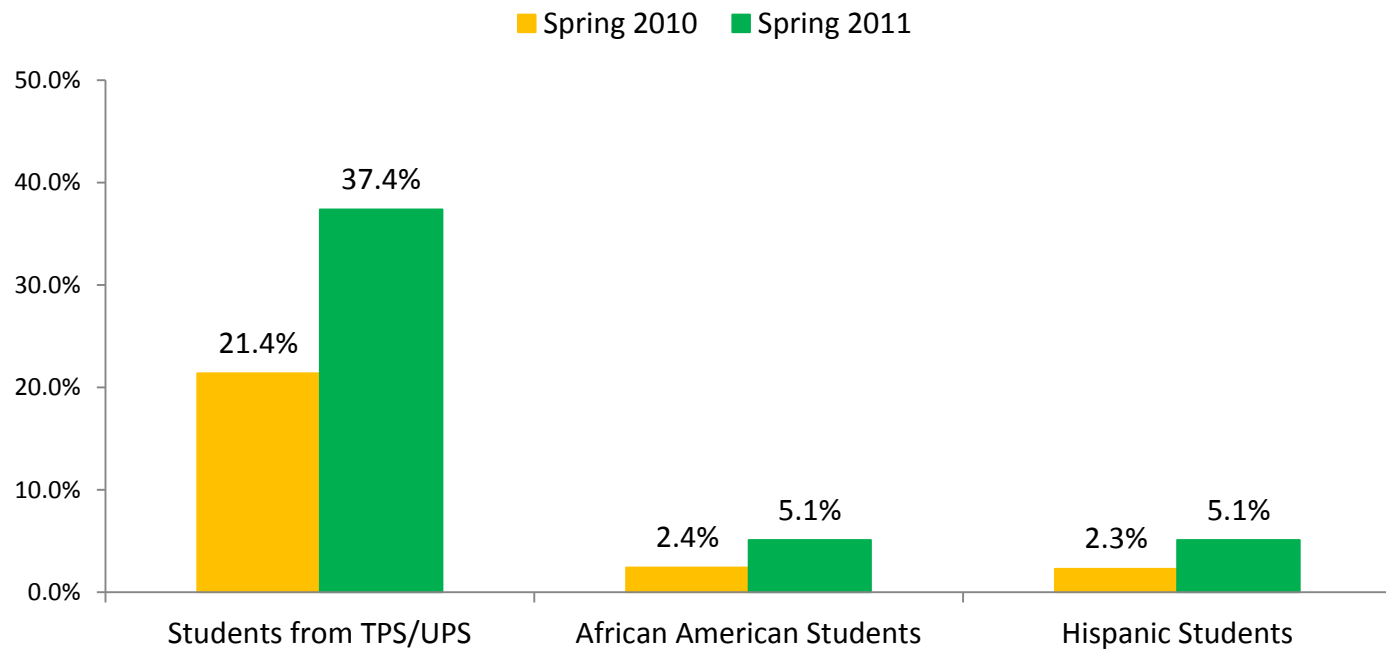
Figure 2. Persistence and Matriculation to TCC by Concurrent Group



# Findings: Before and After

- Increased access to African American and Hispanic students and students from the participating high schools, compared to before EXCELerate program

Figure 3. Demographics of Concurrent Students Before and After EXCELerate





# Student Feedback

- “It’s good because you get the college experience early and get some credits knocked out in high school.”
- “...they treat you more like an adult than a student.”
- “College classes are much more challenging, but they are fun as well.”

# Challenges and Limitations

- Enrollment procedures and management
- Financial constraints
- Human resource constraints
  - TPS – One Dual/Concurrent Enrollment Coordinator for 9 high schools
  - Union – Major project added to already busy Principal
  - TCC – No employees' time dedicated 100% to project (until recently!)

# Conclusion

- Major findings
  - Expanded college access to a more diverse high school student population
  - EXCELerate students' rates of persistence and matriculation are similar to concurrent students on college campus
- Next steps
  - Requests for expansion to other school districts
  - Qualitative study of student/faculty experience
  - NACEP accreditation

# Contact Information



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