PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY

PARTICIPANT RETENTION ACTION MODEL

SAEOPP PRIORITY 3 TRAINING

Team: Kids R Us; under the direction of Dr. Dorothy Yarborough

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Step 1- Mission

- What is the purpose of your program?
  - As student success advocates we reach out to students, their families, and any other who may stand in need of assistance to reach academic and educational goals.
  - Our priority as student advocates is to serve the needs of low income, first generation, and otherwise disenfranchised students and clients with potential to succeed academically
- Your vision for students?
  - Anyone with desire for education should have access to counseling and advisement leading to literacy, financial literacy, college preparation, and completion
- Your educational philosophy?
  - Our philosophy posits that with a student centered focus, and a holistic approach advisors are in position to be pivotal in the academic success and achievement of those we serve

Step 2 – Assessment: Using the SWOT to Identify the Problem/Issue

Internal

External

Positive

Negative

Strengths

- Creative Staff
- Proven successful workshop curriculums
- Partnerships with communities

Weaknesses

- We face diverse challenges based on our individual communities
- No centralized resource for materials
- Advisor time limitations

Opportunities

- Available technology for sharing materials and resources
- Successful and creative staff in other locales across the country and externally

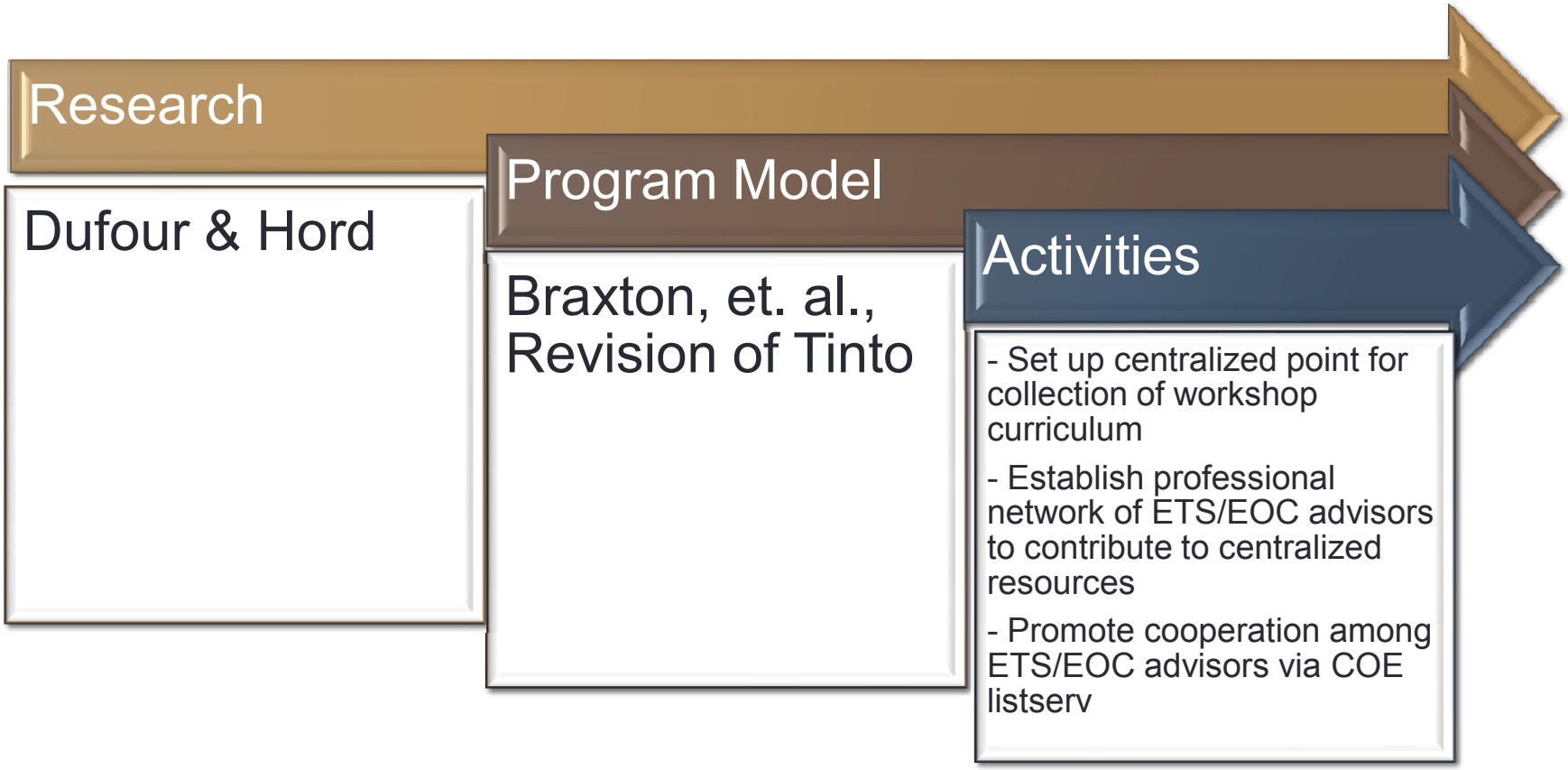
Threats

- Funding
- Lack of partnerships within the TRiO Community that would allow for sharing and cooperation.

Step 3 - Desired Outcomes

- Develop database of workshop materials, and activities accessible to ETS/EOC employees in other regions
- Our goal is to drastically expand the resources available to ETS/EOC advisors

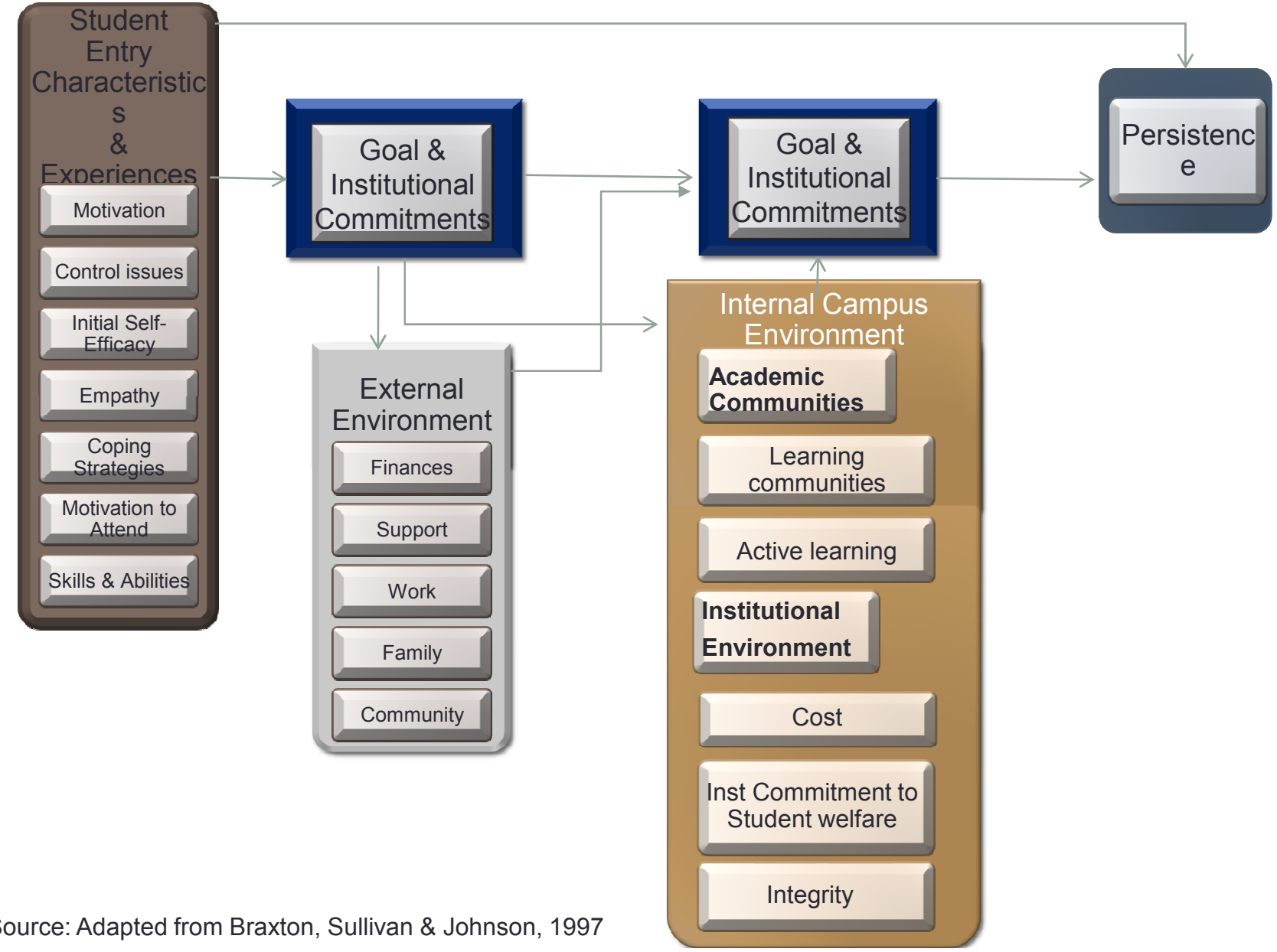
Step 4 – Linking your program to the research



Research

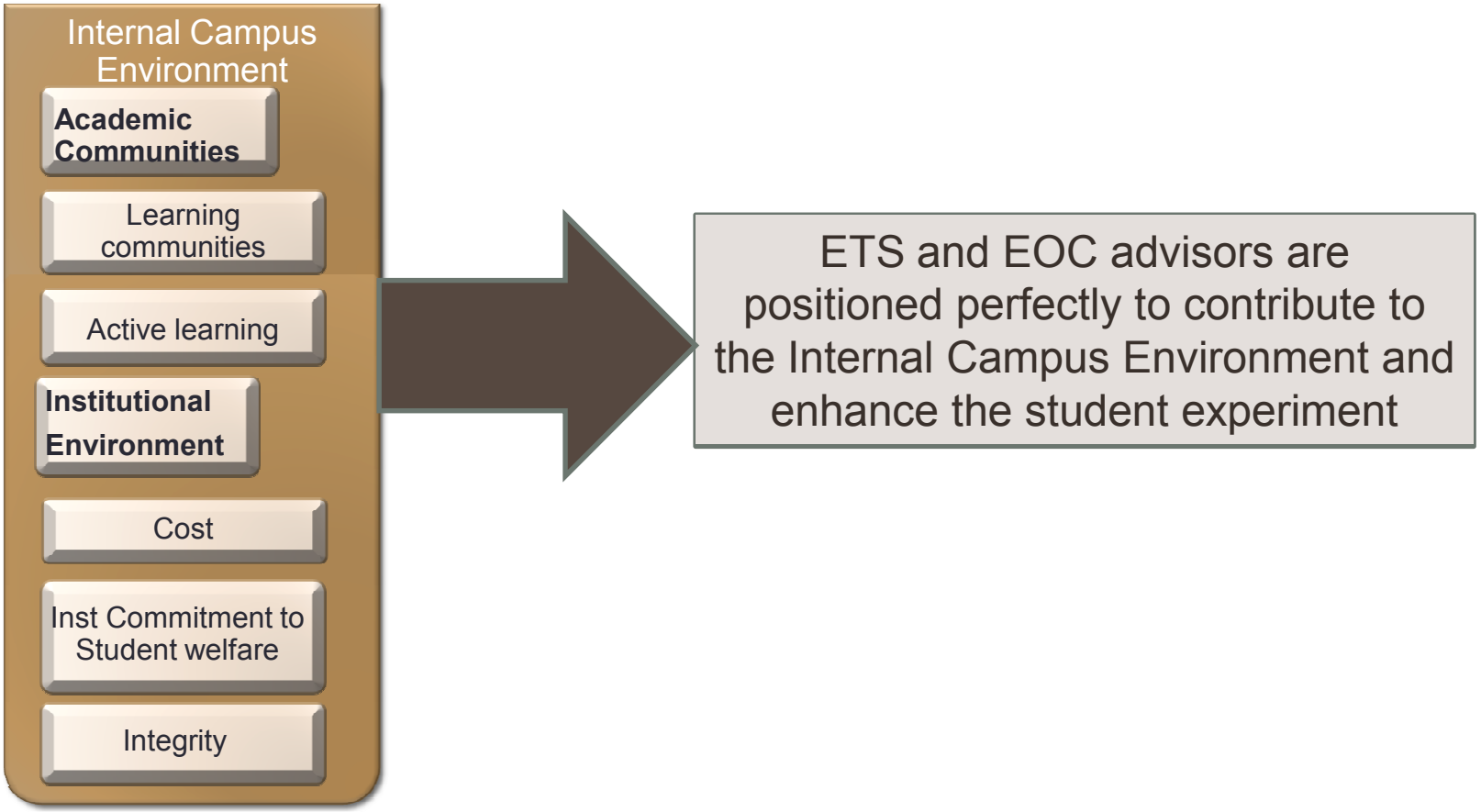
- Professional communities must function with synergy of efforts
  - Dufour, Richard, et. al. *Professional Learning Communities at Work: Best Practices for Enhancings Student Achievement*
- In Professional Learning Communities Educators work together toward a shared purpose to improve student learning.
  - Hord, artofeducating.com
- Research has shown that effective professional learning communities have an impact on teachers to improve positive engagement with students
  - *Professional Learning Communities: Source Materials for School Leaders and Other Leaders of Professional Learning*

Braxton, et. al., Revision of Tinto for Commuter Institutions - 2



Source: Adapted from Braxton, Sullivan & Johnson, 1997

Model


Internal Campus Environment
Academic Communities
Learning communities
Active learning
Institutional Environment
Cost
Inst Commitment to Student welfare
Integrity
ETS and EOC advisors are positioned perfectly to contribute to the Internal Campus Environment and enhance the student experiment

Activities

- Set up centralized point for collection of workshop curriculum
  - blogger.com in association with Google Docs
    - There are some minor functionality issues
      - Could be resolved by way of a dedicated FTP site
      - Could also be resolved with regional sites
- Establish professional network of ETS/EOC advisors to contribute to centralized resources
  - Trainings, conferences, etc.
- Promote cooperation among ETS/EOC advisors via COE listserv

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ETS/EOC Share Link

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2011

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Goals.doc

GOAL SETTING

NAME DATE GRADE LEVEL SCHOOL

1. List your Educational Goals

2. List the classes that you will have to take to achieve your Educational Goal or Goals

_____

_____

_____

What short term steps will you have to take to meet your overall Goal?

_____

_____

_____

3. What long term steps will you need to take to meet your Educational Goal?

_____

_____

_____

4. List one Personal Goal that you would like to achieve before Summer?

_____

5. List one activity that you will have to do to reach your Goal?

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Step 5 - Resources

- What additional resources are required to implement the model & proposed strategies/activities?
- Resource Toolkit
  - Requires no funding
  - Requires no specialized staff, only the participation of staff already in place
  - Internet capable devices (phones, tablets, computers, etc.)
  - Blog development understanding, how to upload/download materials
  - Regional and State associations, COE, other ETS/EOC employees in general

Step 6 - Staff Development

- What new skills or information do staff & faculty need in this model?
  - Google Docs
  - The ability to upload/download materials
  - Understanding of how to post blog information
  - Ability to create coherent, organized, workshop materials of various formats (.pdf, .ppt, .doc, .jpeg, etc.)

Step 7 - Assessment/Evaluation

- Formative steps
  - Each member of Kids R Us will submit at least one workshop, providing a minimum of 14 workshops by June 1, 2011
- Summative steps
  - Success can be evaluated by way of:
    - Community interaction via the blog interface
    - Upload/download quantities