Key Strategy: Provide consistent, effective advising across campus to increase accountability and ensure students are on track to graduate

Advising Centers

USI created a college-based intake advising model, forming a centralized area within each college and in the University Division for all students to receive advising assistance and to allow for flexibility within each of the colleges to manage the complexities of their respective student population.

DegreeWorks

Implemented in fall 2014, this new degree-audit software program provides students and their academic advisors with accurate degree progress and planning information to keep students on-track for on-time degree completion.

Key Strategy: Develop an effective framework for student recruitment and retention

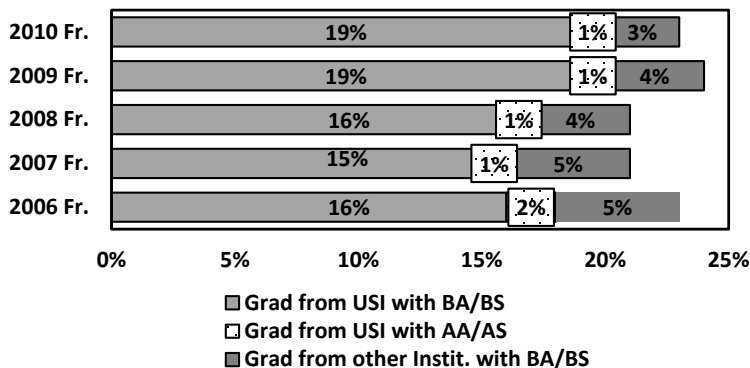## Noel-Levitz Partnership and Strategic Enrollment Plan

USI partnered with Noel-Levitz in an effort to maximize the effectiveness of the University's recruitment and retention initiatives which resulted in:

- Focusing of marketing and communication on students most likely to apply to and enroll at USI.
- Creation of a Strategic Enrollment Plan.
- Adjustment of scholarship funds to maximize recruitment and retention.
- Purchase of Recruiter, a customer relationship management system, was implemented in July 2015 and allows less man-power in organizing applications.

USI First-Time Freshmen Success Rates

The percentage of first-time freshmen graduating from USI within 4-years has increased significantly.

**4-Year Graduation Rate of USI Entering Freshmen**

	Grad from USI with BA/BS
2010 Fr.	19% / 1% / 3%
2009 Fr.	19% / 1% / 4%
2008 Fr.	16% / 1% / 4%
2007 Fr.	15% / 1% / 5%
2006 Fr.	16% / 2% / 5%

☐ Grad from USI with BA/BS
☐ Grad from USI with AA/AS
☐ Grad from other Instit. with BA/BS

Note: Includes only first-time/full-time baccalaureate-seeking freshmen

Office of Planning, Research, and Assessment

Key Strategy: Provide more flexible ways to gain a degree

USI has and continues to implement initiatives to increase the flexibility of degree attainment.

- **14** – The number of faculty and staff at USI are currently certified by the *Quality Matters* peer reviewer certification program and provide peer support and expertise for faculty teaching distance education.
- **39** – The number of credit hours students are now required to complete the USI core curriculum (CORE 39). The reduction from 50 to 39 core courses assists to graduate in 4 years while allowing for exploration through additional elective course work.
- ⬇ – the average number of semesters students spend completing developmental math courses with the redesign of lower level math courses to more efficiently teach mathematical concepts.
- **25%** - The increase in the number of courses offered through Distance Education since 2010.

# of USI Students Enrolled in at least one Distance Education Course

| 5603 | 6114 | 6306 | 6679 | 6996 |
| 2010-2011 | 2011-2012 | 2012-2013 | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 |
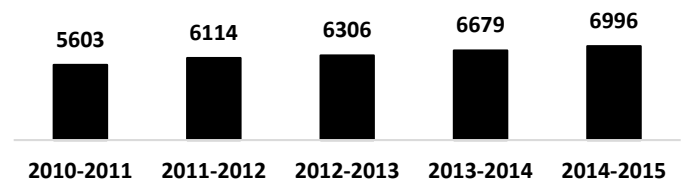
Distance Education Courses Available by College

College	2010-2011	2014-2015	% Change
Business	117	141	20.5%
Liberal Arts	339	317	-6.5%
Nursing & HP	299	292	-2.3%
Science, Eng, & Educ	125	151	20.8%
University Division	4	10	150.0%
Outreach & Engagement	6	9	50.0%

Key Strategy: Increase on-campus job opportunities for students who need financial assistance

- **16%** - The increase in student worker positions, from 813 undergraduate positions in 2010-2011 to 943 in 2014-2015.
- **23** – The number of graduate assistantships Graduate Studies offered in fall 2015.