

Saginaw Valley State University uses Rapid Insight to Incorporate Live LMS Data into Student Success Models

Who knows what the percentage retained would have been if interventions didn't occur and the model wasn't telling us to reach out to these students?

— Nick Wagner

Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness
Saginaw Valley State University



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challenge

Since 2017, Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) has used Rapid Insight's predictive modeling software to improve their retention efforts. The model has been of major benefit to SVSU, but like most institutions using predictive modeling, SVSU found that their models were no longer as relevant once COVID-19 struck.

solution

SVSU integrated live data from their Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) into their model. The LMS data enhanced Wagner's model, offering up-to-date insight into how students were coping with remote classes. This allowed academic advisors and staff to provide targeted support.

outcome

SVSU maintained its retention rate despite the stressors of the pandemic. After several months of using the enhanced model, Wagner measured the model's impact and found that retention probability for nearly all students changed as a result of the LMS data, demonstrating that it had real impact on their retention rate.

future plans

SVSU's efforts with live engagement data are just beginning. The next step is to evaluate the model's outcomes from Fall to Fall, comparing this year's results to next year's. Wagner also plans to integrate on-campus engagement data once in-person classes resume.