Introducing Rising Scholars Pathways in Practice

INTRODUCTION

WHAT A PATHWAYS IN PRACTICE IS

A Pathways in Practice is a published Chancellor's Office document that describes how a California community college is operating as an academic institution to serve students whose education is taking place inside or after time in justice settings. Each document names the college, describes the design choices that make the practice possible, explains how a peer college can build their own version, and identifies the Vision 2030 commitment the practice advances. Each document has similar sections and formats to standardize the content and ensure practitioners walk away to what they need to implement a practice in their campus. This document explains each section and provides an overview of what readers can expect.

GROUNDING INFORMATION

SERVING STUDENTS IN

- CDCR: California state prisons
- On Campus: Formerly incarcerated students on college campuses; students back in the community
- Juvenile Facilities: Juvenile detention facilities
- County Jail: county-run jails
- Fed Prison: Federal prisons

VISION 2030 GOALS

Goal	Description
Equity in Success	Increase the number of California community college students earning associate degrees, credentials, certificates, or specific skill sets that lead to in-demand jobs. Expand baccalaureate attainment by increasing the number of students annually who receive a bachelor's degree from a California community college or transfer to the University of California (UC), California State University (CSU), or four-year independent colleges and universities.
Equity in Access	Increase with equity, participation/enrollments for justice involved individuals.
Equity in Support	Decrease the average number of units accumulated by students earning associate degrees. Increase the number of Pell grant recipients and CCPG recipients.

COLLEGE HIGHLITED

This section lists what colleges are being featured in each document.

PROGRAM LEVEL

Level	Description
Launching	New program, not established or just received first round of funding. No infrastructure, still in the planning phase
Emerging	Some time after a after program launched; Early-stage; awareness exists; initial steps underway
Developing	During this stage, a program is actively implementing program activities and building toward sustainability. Programs may spend many years in this stage
Institutionalized	Program activities are embedded in practice; program is durable and survives beyond individuals
All Programs	This practice is relevant for all programs regardless of level.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITY

- Describes the issue this document is trying to solve. Could provide intro to college being highlighted
- Questions to consider:
  - What student need did the college respond to in designing this practice?
  - What did the college design and put in motion?
  - What are students pursuing through this practice, and what does the practice give them access to that they were reaching for already?

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- What has changed for students because of this practice?
- What does this practice now make possible at the college?

MEASURE OF SUCCESS

- What levels should be pulled to make this practice successful?
- What changes could be expected if this practice is successful?

CONTACT INFO

- Who can be contacted for questions or more information?

METHDOLOGY/ROAD MAP

PURPOSE

- Purpose of practice, intro into methodology
- Organizing statement Format: The practice is titled [name], anchored at [college], and it advances the Vision 2030 commitment to [commitment] by [brief framing of how it advances that commitment].

ANTICIPATED CHALLENGES

- What challenges can the practitioner expect when implementing this practice
- Questions to consider:
  - What would the college refine in a second iteration?
  - What did the team learn that peer colleges should hear?

STEPS TO IMPLEMENT/PROCESS

- Breaks down practices into phases and steps, including deliverables where applicable to provide a check point/milestone
- This section should include visuals when applicable

KEY PARTNERS

- Outline the roles of relevant personnel and their responsibilities to make this practice viable
- Questions to consider:
  - Who are the essential partners inside and outside the college, and what sustains those relationships?
  - Partner organizations, agencies, or units essential to operation

SUSTAINABILITY

- Explains how to institutionalize practice, organized into buckets/themes.

KEY IMPLEMENTATION PRINCIPLE

- Key takeaway for practitioners/reader
- Overarching theme of practice that could be relevant to other program areas

Rising Scholars Network 2026 Convening.
From left to right: Chancellor Sonya Christian, Dr. Kenney and Ms. Murillo from Palomar College, and Dennis Barroso.