



Change Idea Round Robin

First2 Network Institutional
Team at Marshall
University

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Successes/ Highlights from the 2023-24 Year



Donuts with the Deans

Connected with a lot of first-gen, rural, and underrepresented STEM students in the College of Science.



Networking Dinner with Faculty

Deconstructed the “ivory tower.”
AKA: allowed students to connect with faculty on a deeper level through a neutral environment.



Peer Mentoring Across Institutions

Promoted cross-institutional collaboration, communication, and team-bonding.



Semester Research Immersion

All participants agreed that this change idea helped them to feel more connected on campus and within STEM.

Challenges from the 2023-24 Year

Donuts with the Deans	Need better analysis of target students (first-gen, rural, underrepresented).
Networking Dinner with Faculty	Would like to increase financial support from MU for future events.
Peer Mentoring Across Institutions	No data was able to be collected.
Semester Research Immersion	Need to communicate with students more frequently – have them share out during the club meeting hours.

Donuts with the Deans PDSA	2022	2024	% Difference
Survey Respondees	89	35	-60.67%
Students NOT taking a STEM course	19.1%	2.9%	-84.82%
Students who had NOT met any deans prior to the event	53.9%	14.3%	-73.47%
Students were first-generation	29.2%	20.0%	-31.51%
Students were underrepresented	57.3%	28.3%	-50.61%
Students grew up in a rural area	43.8%	40.0%	-8.68%
Students did NOT know about the First2 Network prior to the event	82.0%	80.0%	-2.44%
Students who qualify to be a First2 Network scholar	85.0%	68.6%	-19.29%

Things to consider for the future:

- ❖ We suspect that location, duration, and frequency may affect the data.
- ❖ For future iterations, we want to investigate why and how these factors affect the data.
 - What happens if we hold our event in multiple locations across campus?
 - Is there a correlation between first-generation, rural, and/or underrepresented STEM student presence and physical location?

Example: Do female STEM students tend to spend more time in the College of Science building than the College of Engineering and Computer Science building?
 - How much more effective might our efforts be if we hold the event multiple times throughout the semester? How much is too much?

Things to Consider

Tabling

Communicating incentives – more students are aware of F2N

Financial Efficiency – optimize our spending capabilities

Providing Incentives – giving people more appealing options

- Accommodate more food and drink preferences/ needs.

More Interactive Elements – still not a hit but has room to improve.

- Allowed students and administrators to be more engaged in a neutral environment.

Planned change ideas (PDSAs) for the upcoming 24-25 year

First2 Campus Club

- Officers recruit and lead STEM students in planned activities

Network Dinner

- To make students feel more comfortable speaking to/interacting with faculty/administrators by being in a casual setting

Research Immersion

- Meaningfully connecting STEM students with faculty, staff, and peers in ways that promote belonging, wellness, resilience, and financial stability

Donuts with the Deans

- To allow students to meet their Deans and connect with them in a casual setting

Supplemental Instruction

- A non-remedial academic support program for students, in historically difficult gateway courses, that targets high D/F/W rate gateway courses rather than high-risk students

Peer Mentoring

- Putting every freshman, sophomore, and transfer student in contact with a caring upperclassman who will help them get adjusted to campus, answer any questions, point them to the right resources, etc.