

**Moving From Theory to Action:
Building a Model of Institutional Action for Student Success**

Vincent Tinto, Syracuse University
Brian Pusser, University of Virginia

Drawing upon the extensive body of research on student retention in postsecondary education, the report develops a model of institutional action that identifies types of policies and practices that institutions should adopt to increase the success of their students, in particular those of low-income backgrounds. Since institutions do not operate in a policy vacuum, the model was extended to include the impact of state policies on student success. By doing so, this report suggests not only what institutions can do to promote greater student success, but also suggests what states can do to assist institutions to achieve that goal.