

Progress towards realizing the vision of student success

Siyaphumelela Conference

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The Wits Experience

One of the seven **Strategic Priorities of the Wits Vision 2022**. The focus of this strategic priority is to:

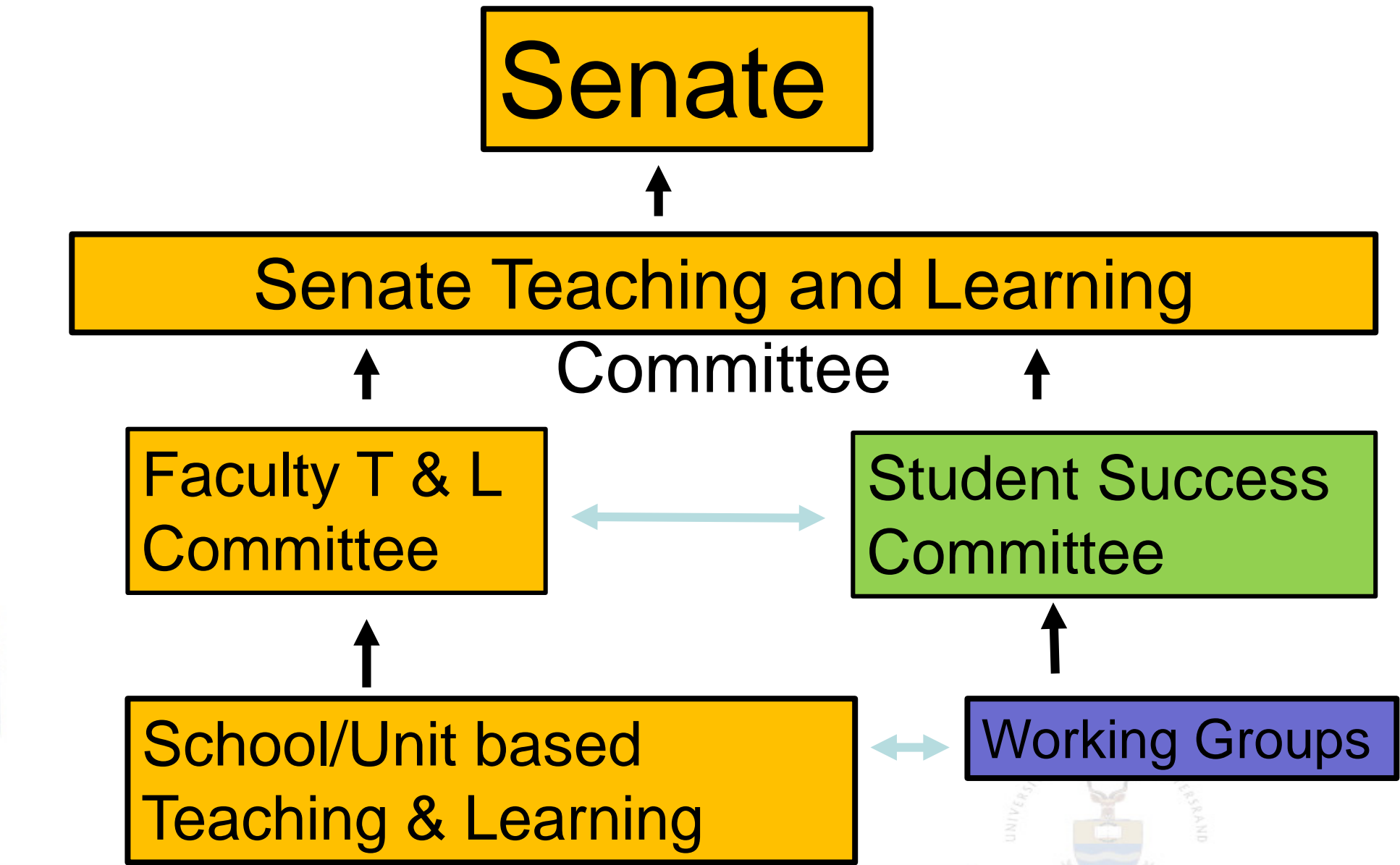
- Provide a distinct, intellectually stimulating and rewarding student learning experience.
- Prioritise student wellbeing & Wits institutional culture.
- Create a healthy environment, free of prejudice, gender & race discrimination, supportive of all students and university stakeholders regardless of their status taking into account power differentials.



Building an Ecosystem for Student Success

- **Governance for Student Success**
- **Establishment of Faculty Based Units for Academic Advising**
- **Improvement of support structures**
 - Financial Aid and Scholarships
 - Expanding Residences and residence access to 1st years
 - Strengthening Student Affairs (Counselling and Careers, Health and Wellness, Food Security)
- **Technical support systems for improved management.**
 - Early Warning Systems
 - Tableau Dashboard based on Biographical data
 - Predictive Analytics – persistence modelling
- **Student Success Framework**
- **Continuous Professional Development of Academics.**
 - Short Courses and workshops
 - PG Dip in Ed (HE)
 - PG Dip in Health Science Ed
- **Outcomes**





Senate

Senate Teaching and Learning Committee

Faculty T & L Committee

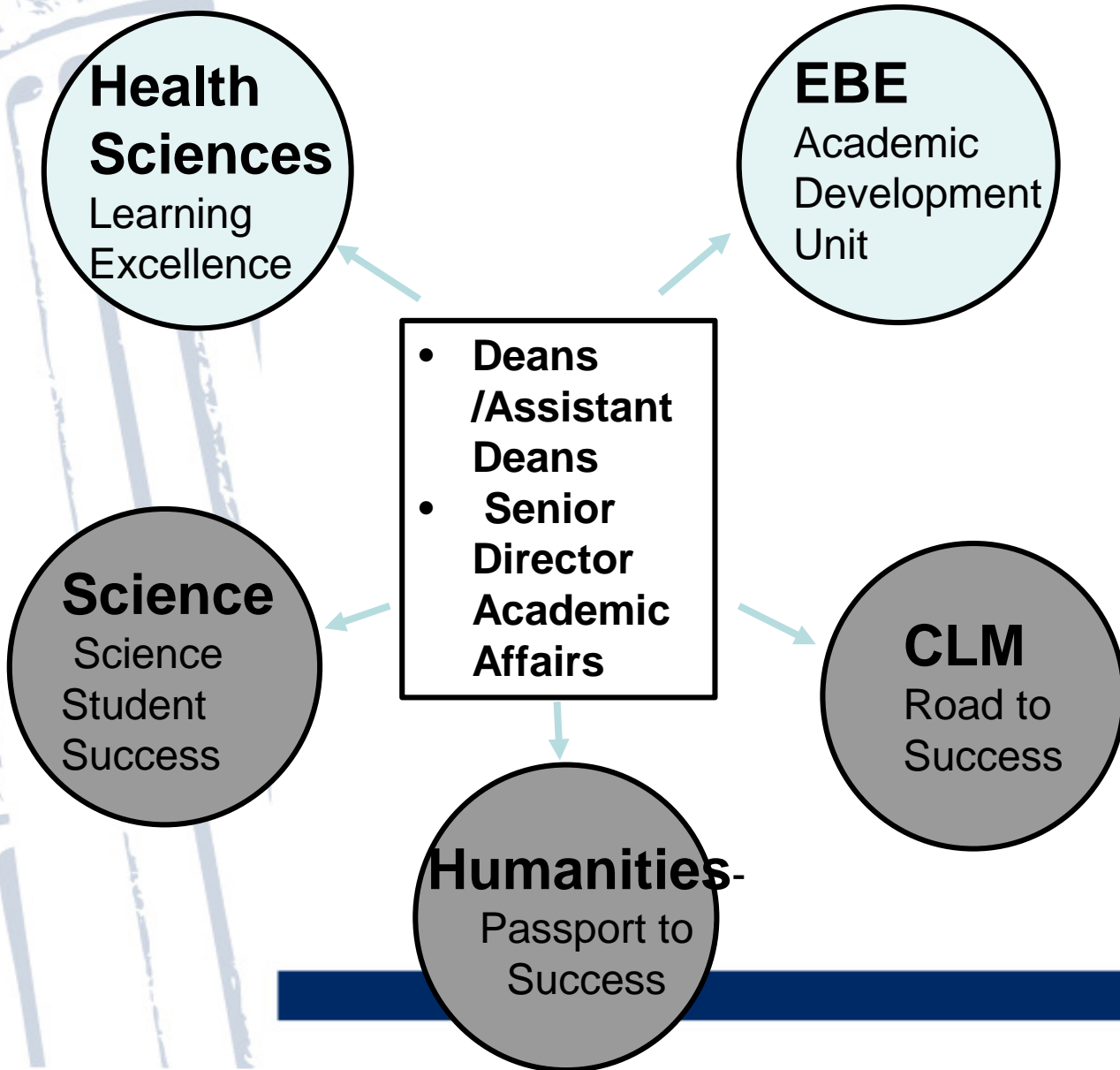
Student Success Committee

School/Unit based Teaching & Learning

Working Groups



Academic Advising & Other Student Support



Enrolment Centre (SENC)

Student Affairs (Counselling & Career Services, Campus Health & Wellness, DLU, Food Security)

Financial Aid & Scholarships Office

Residences

International Students Office



Development of portals and dashboards

Early Warning System

- Early warning and tracking system.
- Used by faculties to identify, monitor and advise students
- Gives early indication of which modules are “challenging”.
- Integration of student support (CCDU, Financial Aid, Residences, Food Security Programmes, Tutorial Support).

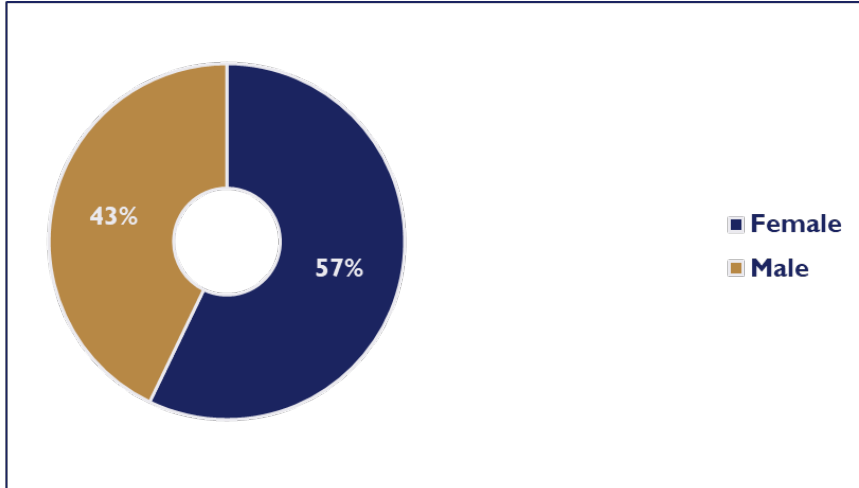
Tableau Dashboard used by faculties

- Three years of Biographical Questionnaires and feedback from students.
- Gives indication of parameters such as:
 - Gender and race.
 - Quintile distribution of where students come from
 - Home languages spoken, languages of instruction
 - Residence/non residence students.
 - First generation status
- Faculties are better equipped to deal with students individual challenges

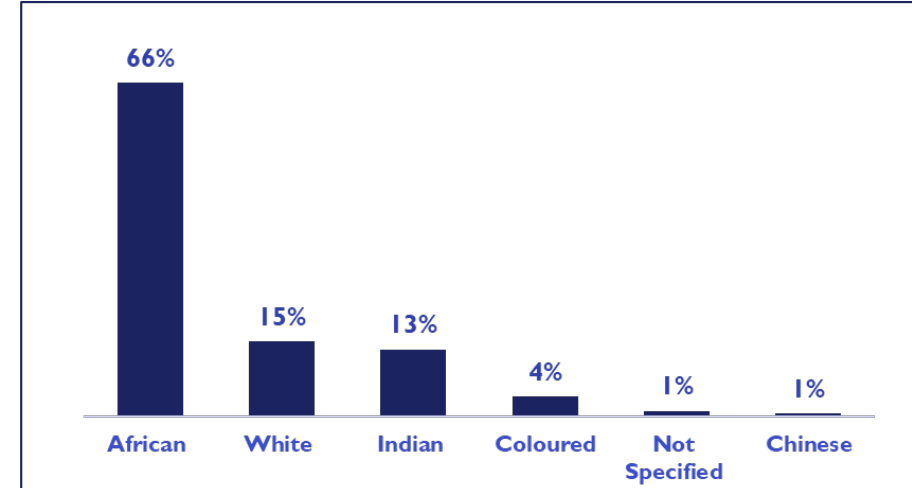
Predictive Analytics - Persistence Modelling

- Using machine learning tools and techniques to predict the Year-Year Persistence of students to improve the student success.

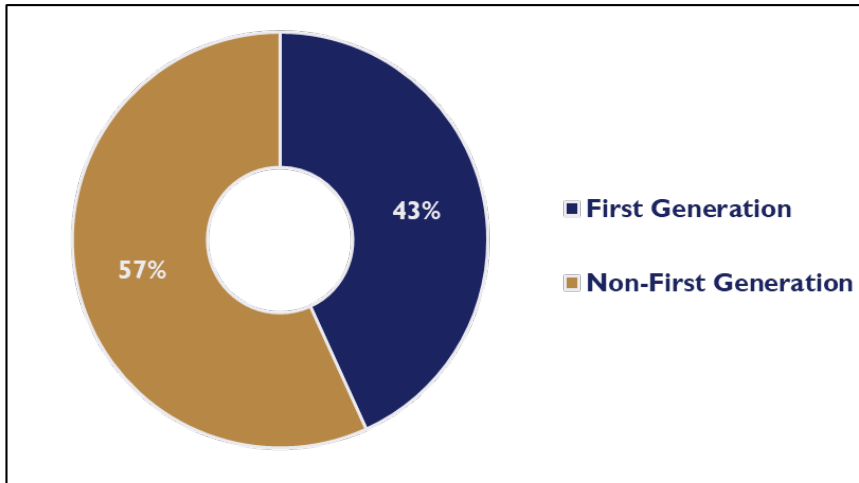
Biographical questionnaire data



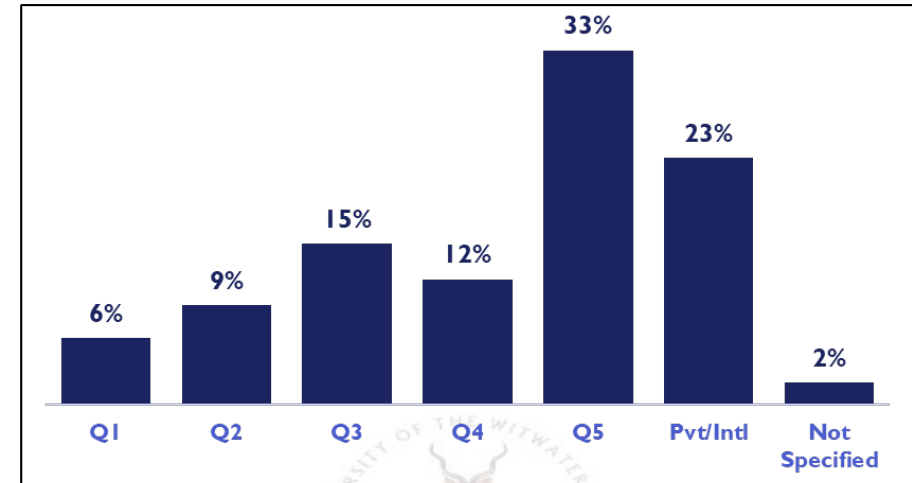
Distribution of students based on gender



Distribution of students based on race

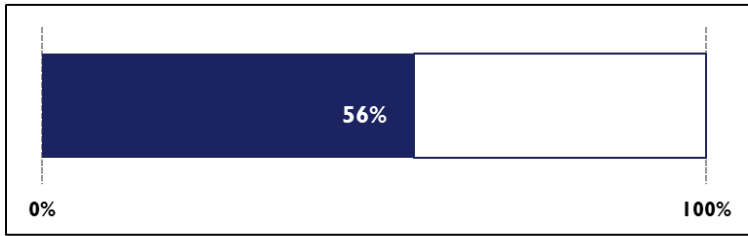


Distribution of students based on first generation status



Distribution of students based on school quintile categories

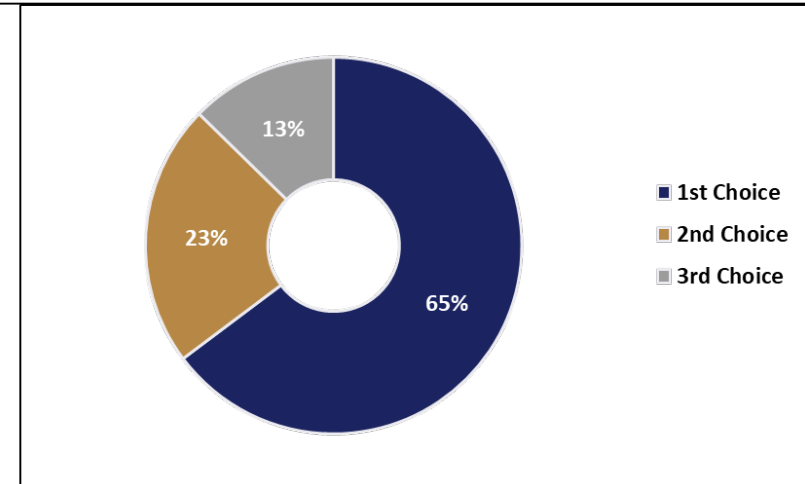




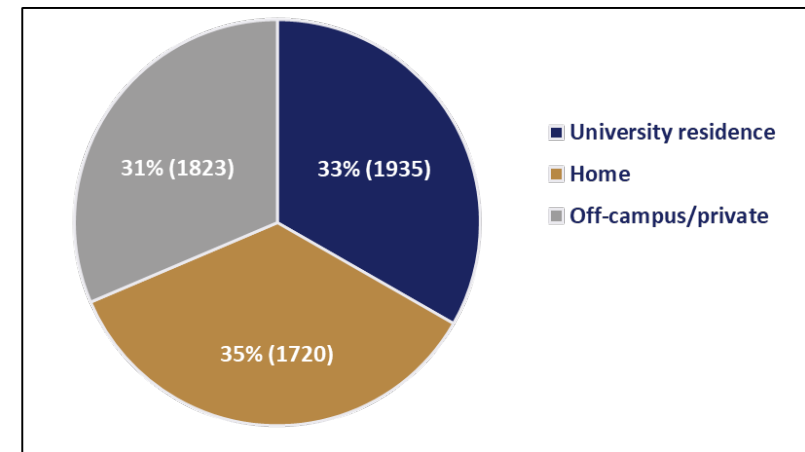
Students who were not educated in their home language

Distribution of students based on facilities that they made use of at their high school

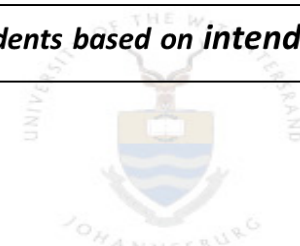
Faculty	Science Labs	Library	Computers
Commerce, Law & Management	65%	63%	61%
Engineering and the Built Environment	70%	53%	55%
Health Sciences	81%	63%	67%
Humanities	60%	66%	61%
Science	67%	52%	53%
Overall	69%	59%	59%



Distribution of students based on choice of study enrolled for

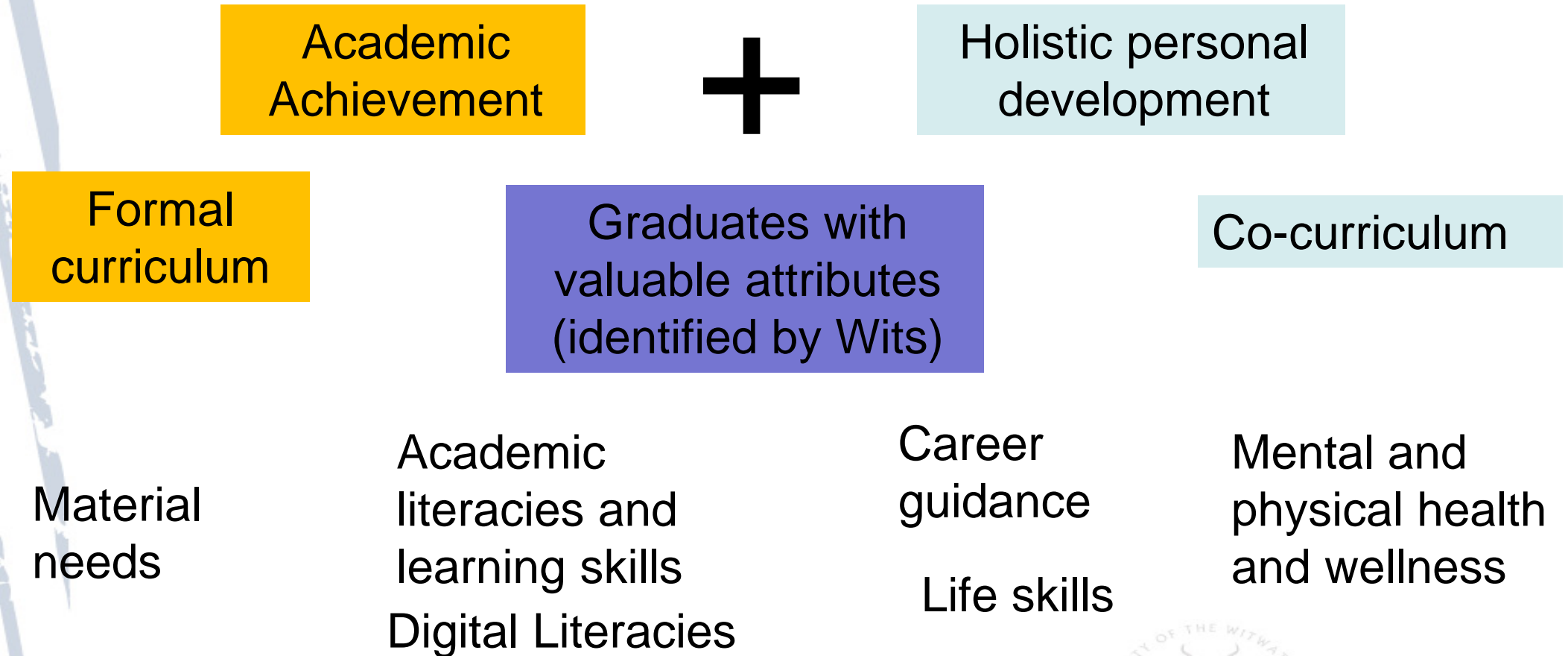


Distribution of students based on intended place of residence



Institutionalization of student support.

(The Student Success Framework)



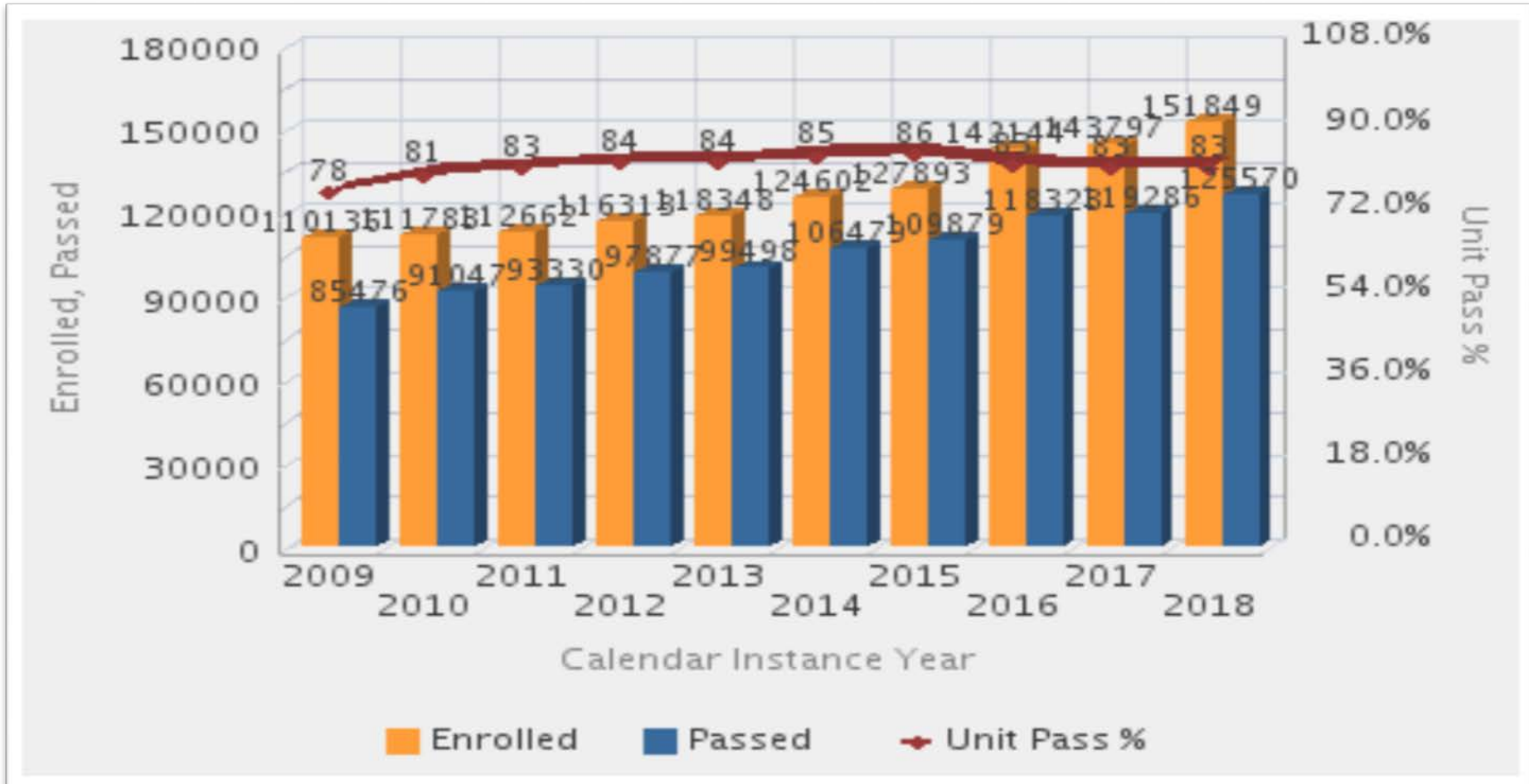
Framework needs to guide coherent, effective, holistic student success interventions



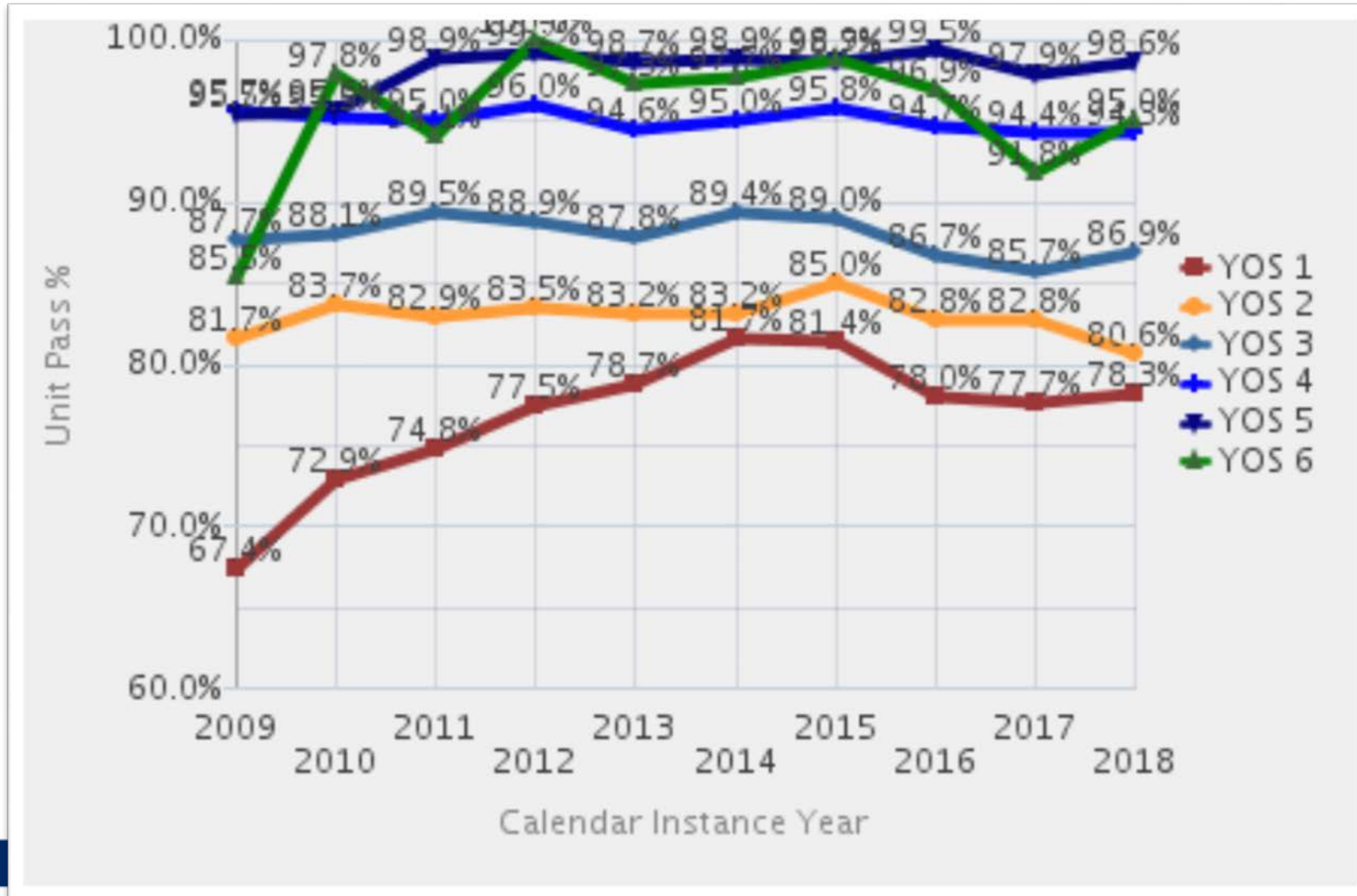
What are the results?



Module Pass rates overall (83 %)

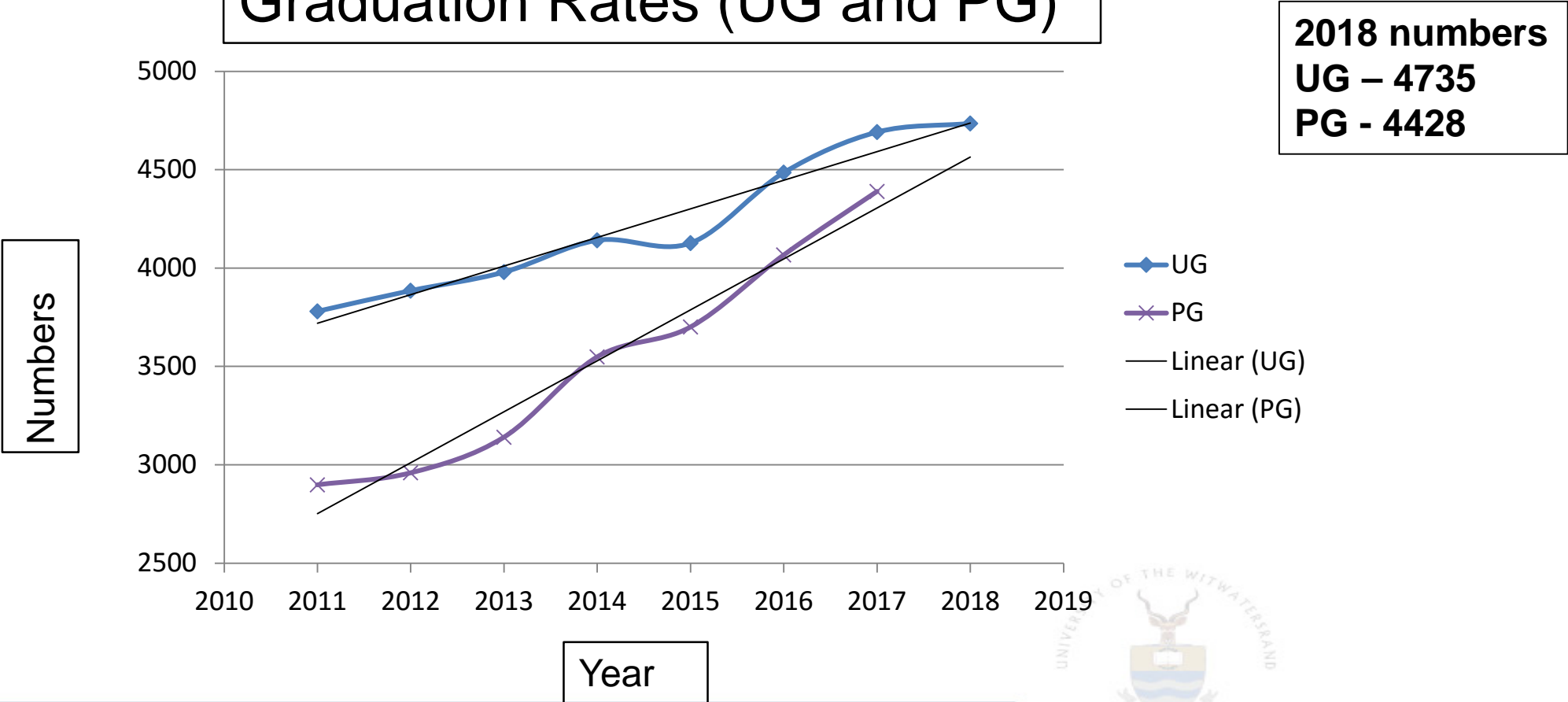


Module Pass rate per year of study (year 1 -6)



Graduation numbers are increasing

Graduation Rates (UG and PG)



Q & A

