

# Institutionalizing Active Learning and Empowerment strategies through the Academic Library

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**AHSIE**

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## Session goals:

- Define the methodology of Active Learning and its relationship with Student Empowerment.
- Identify some teaching techniques that facilitate active learning.
- Discuss the best practices and Institutionalization initiatives of the Title V-HSI Project: “Active learning to empower students and increase retention and graduation”.
- Reflect on the role of the Library as a Cultural and Active Learning Space



**Define with one word your educational philosophy to achieve student success**

# Active Learning

- Instructional model that focuses the responsibility of learning on students.
- Popularized in the 1990s.
- Active learning involves students in two aspects: doing things and thinking about the things they are doing (Bonwell and Eison, 1991).
- In teaching learning activities the student participates or interacts with the content, instead of passively taking the information.
- It has stood out as the ideal methodology for educators to foster interest and engagement in learning among students.
- It is seen as the counterpart to the traditional in class Conference

# Thinkers of Active Learning

Dewey



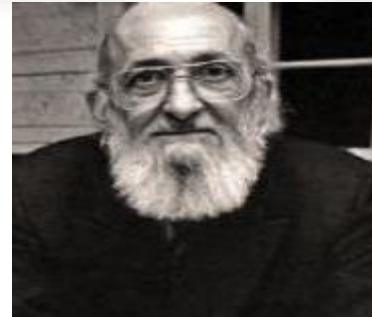
Piaget



Vigotsky



Bell Hooks



Freire



Learning is not a spectator sport. Students do not learn much just by sitting in class listening to teachers, memorizing pre-packaged assignments, and spitting out answers. They must talk about what they are learning, write about it, relate it to past experiences, apply it to their daily lives. They must make what they learn part of themselves”.

(Chickering and Gamson, 1987, p. 3)

# Techniques and Strategies

## Simple

- Writing
- Pauses for reflection
- Discussion in large groups
- Self-assessment
- Work and peer review
- Group evaluations
- Brainstorming sessions

## Complex

- Case studies
- Interactive readings
- Technological activities
- Simulations and games
- Roleplay
- Inquiry activities
- Field visits
- Forums / Dramatizations



# Advantages of Active Learning

## Social-emotional

- Learning is student-centered, therefore, it promotes empowerment
- Empowerment and participation is key in educational tasks, the greater participation of the student, greater is their academic success (Negrón, 2018).
- It encourages the development of soft skills so students also learn decision-making skills, leadership, teamwork skills in the workplace, developing socio-emotional skills.
- Sense of community and self-esteem.

## Learning

- Reinforces important material, concepts and skills.
- It gives students the opportunity to think, speak and process the course material.
- Real-time learning assessment
- Students interact and comment more in class
- It promotes the development of self-directed learning
- Opportunity for connection with content and peer collaboration.

# Strengthening HSI's through student empowerment

- Empowerment is the process of increasing personal, interpersonal, or political power so that individuals, families, and communities can take action to improve their situations (Gutierrez 1995).
- Empowerment is a very valuable process that enriches student life, creates dialogue between the institution and the student body to improve processes, services while it promotes leadership, service ... and sense of belonging ... It strengthens personal, social development and promotes a democratic society (Negrón, 2018).

## Our challenge



2015

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# Our Response:

## Title V-HIS Grant: “Active learning to empower students and increase retention and graduation”

Goal	Activity Component
<p>1. Improve pedagogies of teaching and learning through innovation and integration of interactive technologies in academic programs, in the classroom, outside the classroom and online or hybrid education.</p>	<p>C1- Creation of transforming learning environments</p>
<p>2. Increase the integration and socio-academic success of students through improved and personalized students. Support services and resources.</p>	<p>C2- Reform and strengthen the teaching and learning process</p>
<p>3. Improve USC's infrastructure to facilitate and support the necessary innovation and integration of interactive technologies in academic programs, classrooms, out of the classroom and online or hybrid education through renewed learning spaces.</p>	<p>C3- Integration of cooperative work spaces, learning incubator and technologically optimized classrooms</p>
<p>4. Expand USC's research, innovation and service capabilities for institutional effectiveness and sustainability through improved infrastructure, innovative programs, improved and improved interactive technologies and renewed learning spaces.</p>	<p>C4- Model a learning appraisal system</p>

# Key Activities

Components...

c1 Yc2

- Professional Development (Faculty, Academic Counselors & Support Staff)

c1

- Student Empowerment Services: Counseling, Tutoring & Mentoring

c3

- Development of Cowork Spaces to Spark innovation

c1

- Academic Advising Team

c4

- Pedagogical and Curricular Revision that includes: entrepreneurship, innovation and hybrid learning.

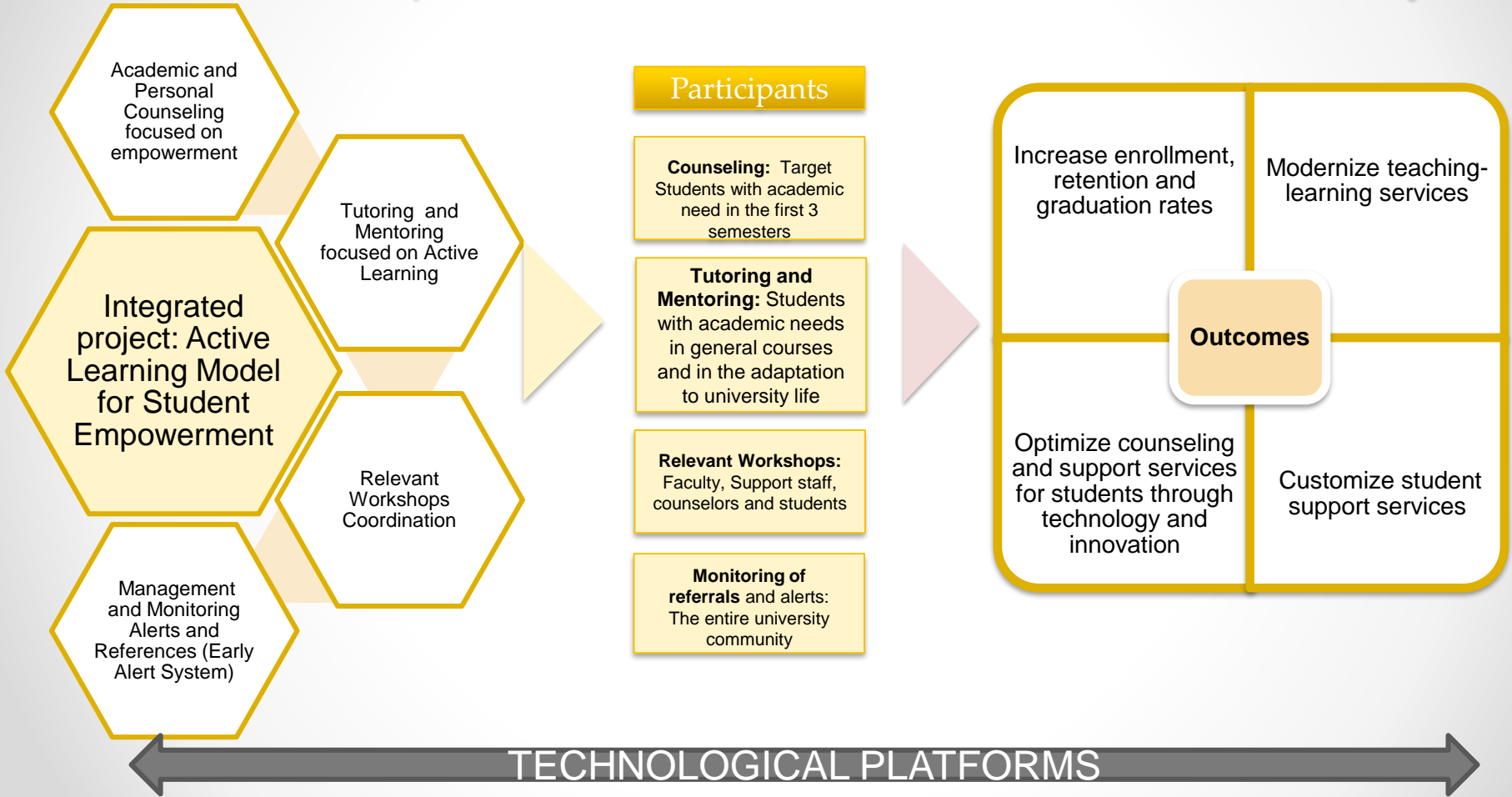
c 2 Y c3

- Implementation, maintenance and monitoring of: early warning system and the advising and student life modules (in jenzabar ex)

c 4

- Student Learning Assessment Systems

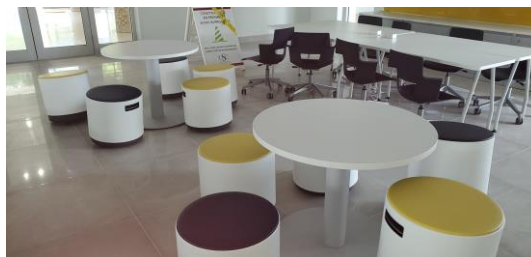
# Student Empowerment Service Model- Title V-HSI Project



# Professional Development



# CoWork Space





# Institutionalization Plan

- The institutionalization process will include strong executive and interdepartmental leadership cooperation, including the allocation of adequate resources from the regular operating budgets to support and facilitate a smooth institutionalization of key activities.
- At the end of the funding, our academic programs, support services and operating infrastructure will be strengthened and enhanced.
- The Dean of Academic Affairs and the Dean of Student Affairs work collaboratively for seamless institutionalization of new practices and procedures.

# Current Institutionalization Initiatives

- Early Alert System
- Tutoring & Mentoring Services
- First Year Experience Revised
- Academic and Holistic Support Services Structure Revised
- Active Learning Model Adopted
- Cowork Spaces



# The Library as a Socio-Cultural and Active Learning Space

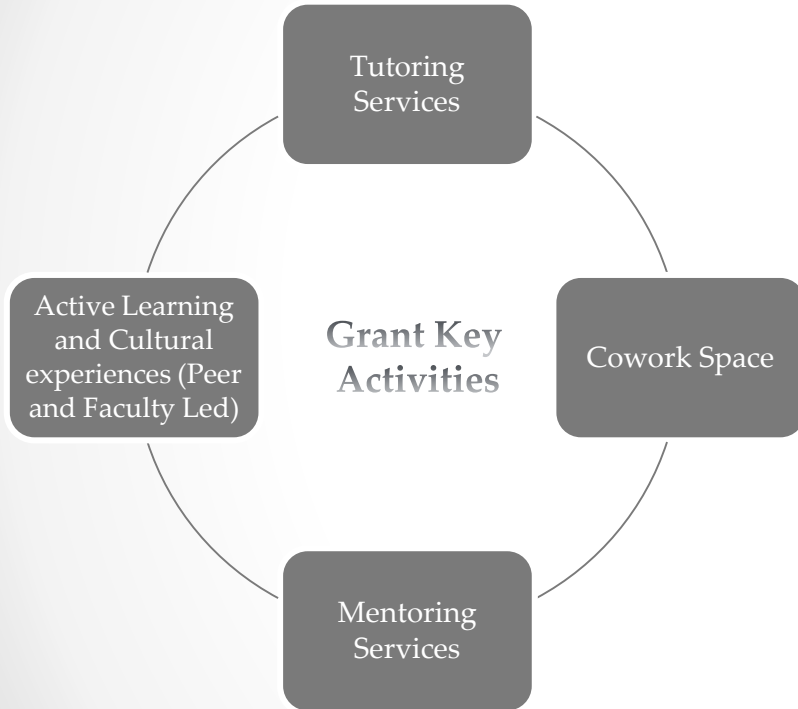
- The era of access and digital age has developed a constantly evolving social structure. Today in the Fourth Industrial Revolution, we see the fusion of technologies, which blur the differences between the physical, the digital and the biological. (Schwab, 2016).
- Big data, artificial intelligence and robotics will present great challenges that need the perspective and context of universities and their libraries.
- The new library user: digital natives or Z generation. “A new type of human being” (Rifkin, 2000), while also “entrepreneurial, innovative, and independent learners concerned with effecting social change” (Seemiller & Grace).
- “As a direct consequence of the digital revolution, academic libraries today face competition as information providers” (Ross & Sennyey, 2008). So, ¿What can we offer?

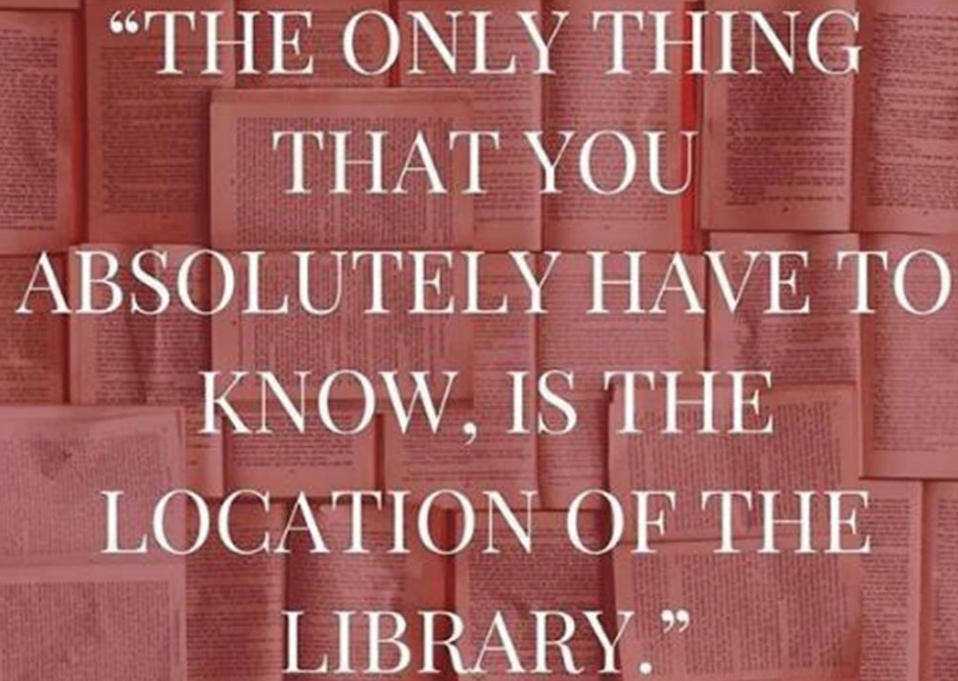


*“Social infrastructure provides the setting and context for social participation, and the library is among the most critical forms of social infrastructure that we have” (Klinenberg, 2018).*

**Active Learning and Empowerment Experiences,  
Participation, Services & Culture**

# The Library as the Institutionalization Hub





“THE ONLY THING  
THAT YOU  
ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO  
KNOW, IS THE  
LOCATION OF THE  
LIBRARY.”

—Albert Einstein

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