Handout #1 - Recruitment Letter
Dear NAME,

We are excited to learn that you are planning to attend Beloit College in the fall. As college draws near do you find yourself wondering . . . . . . . what will college really be like? Will I fit in? Will I make friends? Will I be successful?

You are not alone! Many first-year students find themselves pondering these same questions. Fortunately, there is a program on campus that we think you will find helpful.

Program X is designed to provide a network of academic, personal, financial and career services to over a hundred eligible Beloit College students. Program participants arrive on campus before all other first-year students. During this time students learn the college campus, gain valuable college skills, meet key faculty and staff, and bond with other program participants. During their college career participants have access to a variety of services including:

- Textbooks and Computers
- Mid-term evaluations
- Cultural Capital events
- Financial-aid awards
- Leadership opportunities
- Academic and personal coaching

We have enclosed information about our program as well as a program application. We hope that you will carefully consider joining us for our Summer Bridge Program the week before New Student Days (August 12 - August 17, 2014). Here’s what participants had to say about the experience:

“I am really grateful that I decided to attend Summer Bridge. . . I got a lot more than I expected! I met a variety of staff members and made a lot of great friends. (The) whole experience prepared me for my first week in college. Unlike other students, I already knew where to go. All the activities were a lot of fun. I highly recommend incoming students take advantage of this amazing opportunity. Trust me, you won't regret it!”

- STUDENT NAME ’14

“It made me feel at home and welcomed. I had a wonderful time meeting new people and participating in challenging events. I couldn’t have asked for a better way to start college.”

- STUDENT NAME ’14

Want more information, visit our web site at X, phone our office, or check us out on facebook (X).

Sincerely,
Handout 2 - Reflection

Prompt: Reflect on your prior experiences in college/university. Think about a time when you were a new college student (undergraduate or graduate) and did not know how to navigate the environment. Answer the following questions in a few short words/sentences.

1. What was the situation?

2. How did you feel as a new student in that situation?

3. What did you do?

4. When (if ever) did you start feeling comfortable? What happened?

Larger question for reflection: How can we use your own experiences to relate to current students’ experiences at your institution, particularly for those who are from underserved and underrepresented backgrounds?
An Equity Asset Based Approach to Student Learning and Faculty Development (Beloit College)

Handout 3: Recruitment Letter

Program X Wants YOU!!

Soon you will be entering into your first year at Beloit College. To help you on this journey we invite you to apply to Program X.

Our program is one that believes in focusing on students’ assets – those things that made you stand out to Beloit when you were accepted – and helping students understand how to use those assets to navigate college.

Program X is designed to provide a network of academic, personal, financial and career services to over one hundred first-generation college, low-income, and/or students with documented disabilities at Beloit College who strive to achieve academic success. We are the ONLY 4-year program on campus that helps with:

- Transitioning into college (with a 2-week Summer Institute as the kickoff!)
- Working through Sophomore “Slump” to assist in picking the right major for you
- Finding internships, study abroad programs, and research opportunities
- Finding postgraduate education or career placement

Our goal is to help our students understand how to navigate college and take FULL advantage of all the opportunities Beloit College has to offer. When our seniors are ready to graduate, they are in a job/internship, service program (Peace Corp, AmeriCorp, Fulbright), or graduate/professional school. To help our students achieve this we offer:

- Peer mentoring
- Textbooks, smart pens, calculators, digital cameras, and laptops
- Funding for conferences and/or professional development workshops
- Targeted academic programming for each year
- Personal support & encouragement
- Grant Aid awards for first and second year students that reduces loan debt

This journey begins with our FULLY FUNDED 2-week Summer Institute August 2-17, 2015. Students take classes for credit, are assigned a peer mentor, partake in fun excursions off campus that promote self-reflection, cultural awareness, bonding and team building, have assigned times to meet professors, and take care of both college and on-campus employment paperwork before other students arrive on campus. This gives YOU an informed start to your college career!

Applications are due June 15th. Late applications will be reviewed only if there are still slots available in the program. Last year we had over 60 applications for 30 slots. The sooner you get your application in the better! To learn more about our FULLY FUNDED services please check out our website at X.