

# Merze Tate College

## Update



Presentation to WMU Faculty Senate

3 March 2022

Dr. Ed Martini, Dean, Merze Tate College  
Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning



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Merze Tate College






## Overview:

- History & Timeline
- Dr. Merze Tate
- Mission, Structure, and Units
- Current Projects and Priorities
- Looking Ahead



# Timeline:

-  September 2019 - Provost launches One WMU Initiative
- March 2020 – Planning process paused for Covid-19
- Summer 2020 – One WMU Recommendations Finalized
- August 27, 2020 – University College announced to campus
- September 1, 2020: University College becomes effective
- Spring/Summer 2021 – Additional units merged into college
- October 8, 2021 – Officially renamed Merze Tate College





# Dr. Merze Tate

- First Black female to graduate from WMU with a bachelor's degree
- First Black female to earn doctorate from Oxford, Harvard
- Fulbright Scholar, spoke five languages
- World Traveler, Journalist, Inventor
- <https://wmich.edu/merzetate/about>



# College Mission:

Merze Tate College exists to create the conditions in which all WMU students may *thrive*.

- Thriving – Evidence-Based, Holistic Student Success Model
- Beyond Grit and Persistence, focus on institutional factors
- Academic Thriving, Intrapersonal Thriving, Interpersonal Thriving
- Measured in part by Thriving Quotient



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# College Units

## Added Fall 2020:

- Career and Student Employment Services
- WMU Signature
- Exploratory Advising
- Writing Center
- TRIO SSP
- Alpha Program
- Office of Military and Veterans Affairs
- Office of Student Transitions
- Foundation Scholars
- Peer2Peer
- Student Success Services
- Solution Squad

## Added Spring 2021:

- Collegiate Pathways Dual Enrollment programs
- University Studies degree completion program
- Academic Advising
- WMU Essential Studies



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# Merze Tate College Leadership Team

- Dr. Ed Martini, Dean
- Dr. Deveta Gardner, Associate Dean
- Tomika Ward, Assistant Dean, Academic Advising
- Dr. Ewa Urban, Director, Assessment and Effectiveness
- Dr. Randy Ott, Senior Director, Academic Collaboration
- Dr. Evan Heiser, Director, Career and Student Employee Services & WMU Signature
- Katie Easley, Director, Student Success Services
- Adrienne Fraaza, Director, Office of Student Transitions
- Kimmy Beuchler, Director, Early College Programs
- Kristie Curier, Marketing Specialist Sr.



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# Current Initiatives:

## Continuing to Implement One WMU Recommendations:

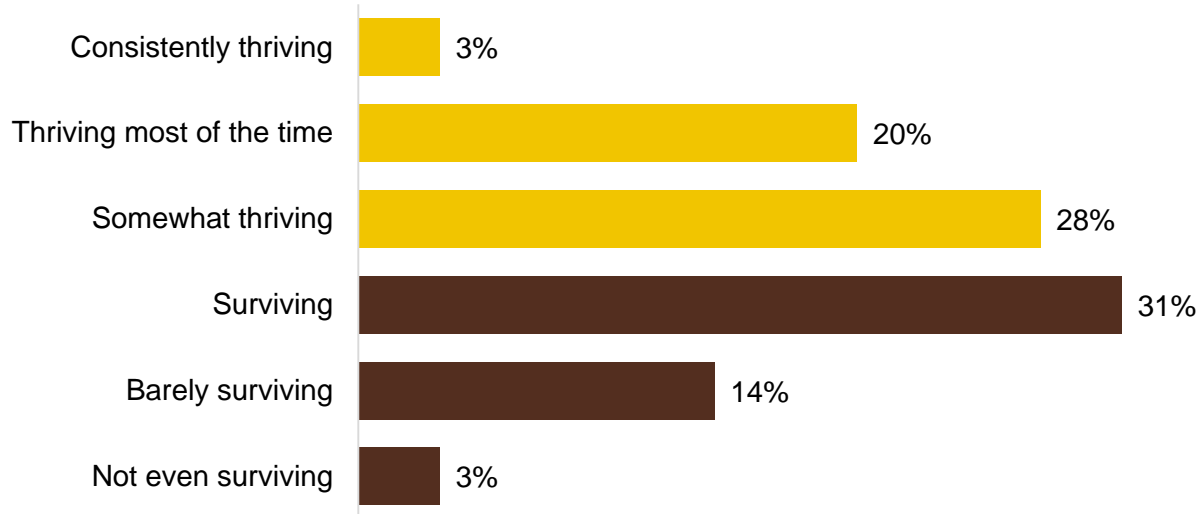
- Phase One – Functionally Centralized Academic Advising
- Salesforce – Student Success Hub
- Solution Squad – Proactive Student Outreach
- Thrive Model – Baseline Study





# Thriving Quotient

- Overall, half of our respondents reported that they are somewhat thriving or thriving this semester.
- The Solution Squad is providing additional outreach to these students based on results.



# Upcoming Initiatives:

## Continuing to Implement One WMU Recommendations

- Phase Two of Functionally Centralized Academic Advising
- Metamajor Pathway Pilot Study in Exploratory Advising
- WMUx-Merze Tate College Joint Project with Faculty Fellow on Equity Achievement Gaps and DEWI Rates



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# Questions?

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## Thanks!

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<https://wmich.edu/merzetate>



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