

PLAR Persistence: What Factors Impact Completion Rates

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Introduction

Why This Research?

- Approximately 86% of students didn't complete PLAR – WHY?

Research Goal:

- Better understand the factors that impact PLAR completion

Methodology:

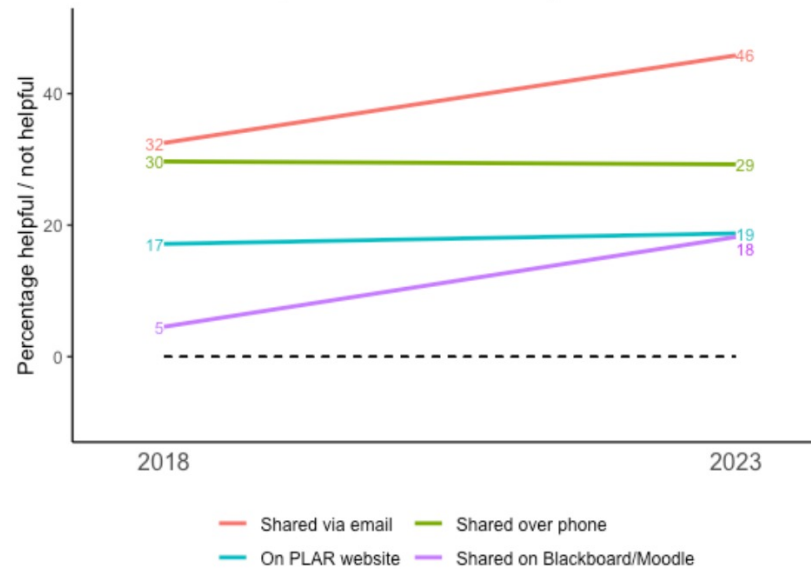
- 2018, survey n=176 and 14 interviews
- 2023, survey n=360, interviews summer 2024

Actioning Findings From 2018

- Used research findings from 2018 to update resources and student support
- Handbooks, pilot projects (with TRU Staff and Indigenous students), course, intentional team PD

Strategic Student Support

Helpfulness of information platforms



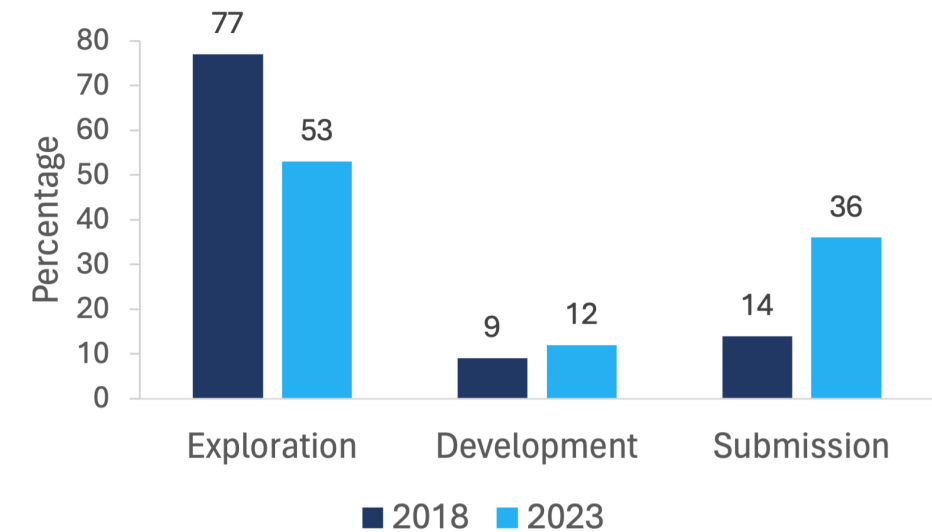
Student Quotes

"Coming to this is like you get on the dock, they give you everything and then they kind of push you out and that is where I am right now so I have to navigate my way back to port." (2018)

"For a mature student, I was hesitant to start and continue after learning I was starting from zero Credits. But the support and feedback I received was encouraging and really helped push me to completion". (2023)

Progress through PLAR

Progress Through PLAR



Lessons Learned and Considerations

- No guarantee of credit highly impacted student's decision to proceed
- Improving resources and support provided to students significantly increased completion rates from 2018-2023
- 80% of respondents would recommend PLAR to a friend
- Learning from students is ongoing