Possible topic categories to define Orientation, Transition, and Retention

Examples of topic categories that fall under ORIENTATION could include (but are not limited to):
- Sharing “model” aspects of traditional orientation programs (on campus programs for freshman, transfers, and parent/family members);
- Addressing the needs of special interest/special populations (examples might include first-generation students, commuter students, student athletes, adult learners, veterans, honors students, international students, etc.);
- Unique program delivery methods (online orientation, pre-orientation programs/services);
- Addressing professional development of professional or student staff (staff selection/training, supervision, balance, personal wellness);
- Current trends in Orientation programming identified by the Association (e.g.; a focus on 2-year institutions’ needs).

Examples of topic categories that fall under TRANSITION could include (but are not limited to):
- Pre-semester programming (Summer Bridge programs);
- Welcome Week programming (as the primary orientation delivery method or a program that complements a traditional summer orientation program);
- Post-Orientation Camps and/or Programs (wilderness camps);
- Programs and Services delivered during the first year on campus (transition courses, first year seminars, common reading programs, specific programs for special populations);
- Role of support services in student success (academic advising, tutoring, supplemental instruction, peer mentoring, etc.).

Examples of topic categories that fall under RETENTION could include (but are not limited to):
- Examining the First Year, sophomore, or senior year Experience (program development and delivery; collaborative efforts between Academic Affairs and Student Affairs, marketing efforts to various constituents, etc.);
- Showing how a program or service has a demonstrated impact on retention (evidence-based “best practices”);
- Sharing methods of retaining different types of students (first-generation students, students of color, academically at-risk students, etc.);
- Application of Retention Platforms (MAP-Works, Starfish, Signals, Beacon, Noel-Levitz, etc.);
- Assessment of retention (how information is gathered, interpreted, and/or shared);
- Research programs involving retention data and other institutional/departmental data.