DHHVAC:
An Online Learning Community for Students with Hearing Loss

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Objectives

- Understand barriers for students with hearing loss

- Describe the online community

- Explore options for creating online communities on your own campus

For Your Consideration

How do you:

- Regularly communicate with students outside of class?

- Coax shy or isolated students to participate in class discussions or activities?

- Foster professional awareness and identity for your students or create connections between course content and "real world" topics?

Barriers to Success in STEM
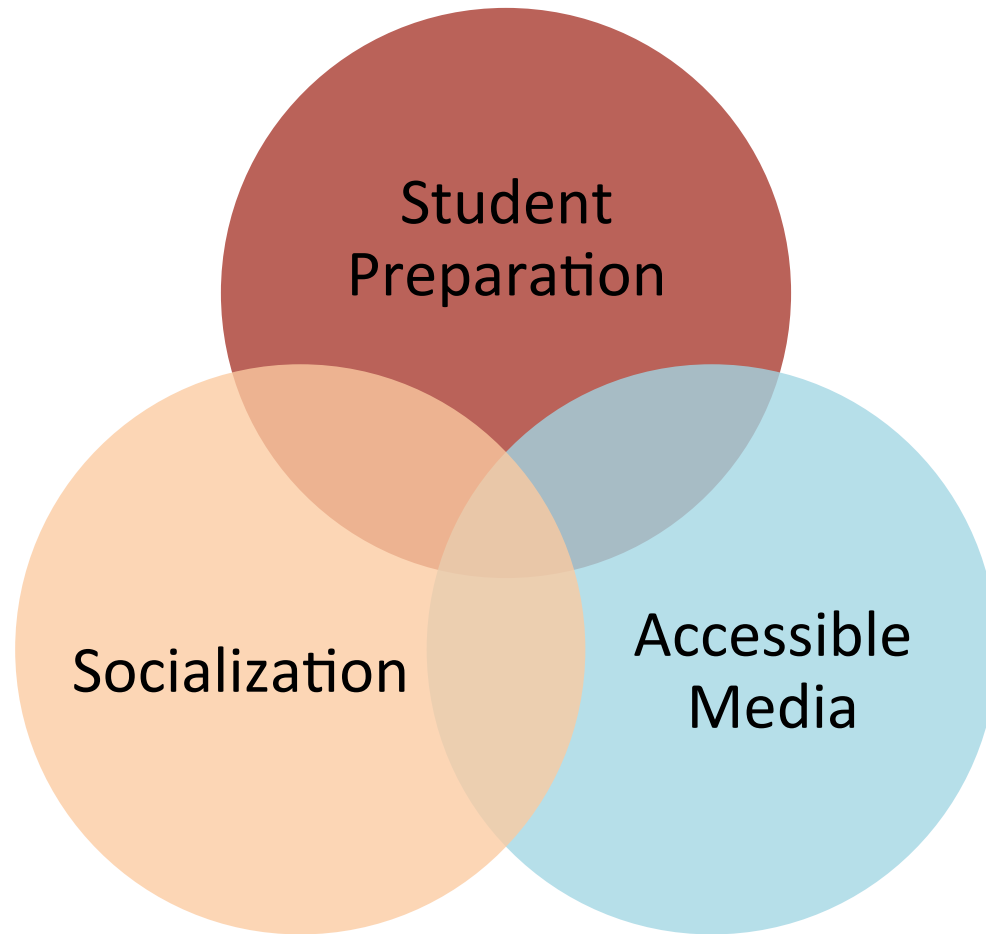
Who We Are

- Deaf STEM Community Alliance
  - Only Alliance specifically for D/HH students
- Supported by the National Science Foundation, HRD #1127955
- Multi-year project (Sept 2011- Aug 2017)
  - Now in our 4th year

Campus Partners

RIT is the lead institution for this project, with Camden County College and Cornell University as partners.

Goal and Objectives

- Goal:

Create a *model* virtual academic community to increase the graduation rates of postsecondary D/HH STEM majors in the long term

  - Iterative and incremental (Cockburn, 2008)

    - Iterative – testing what works and revising what doesn't
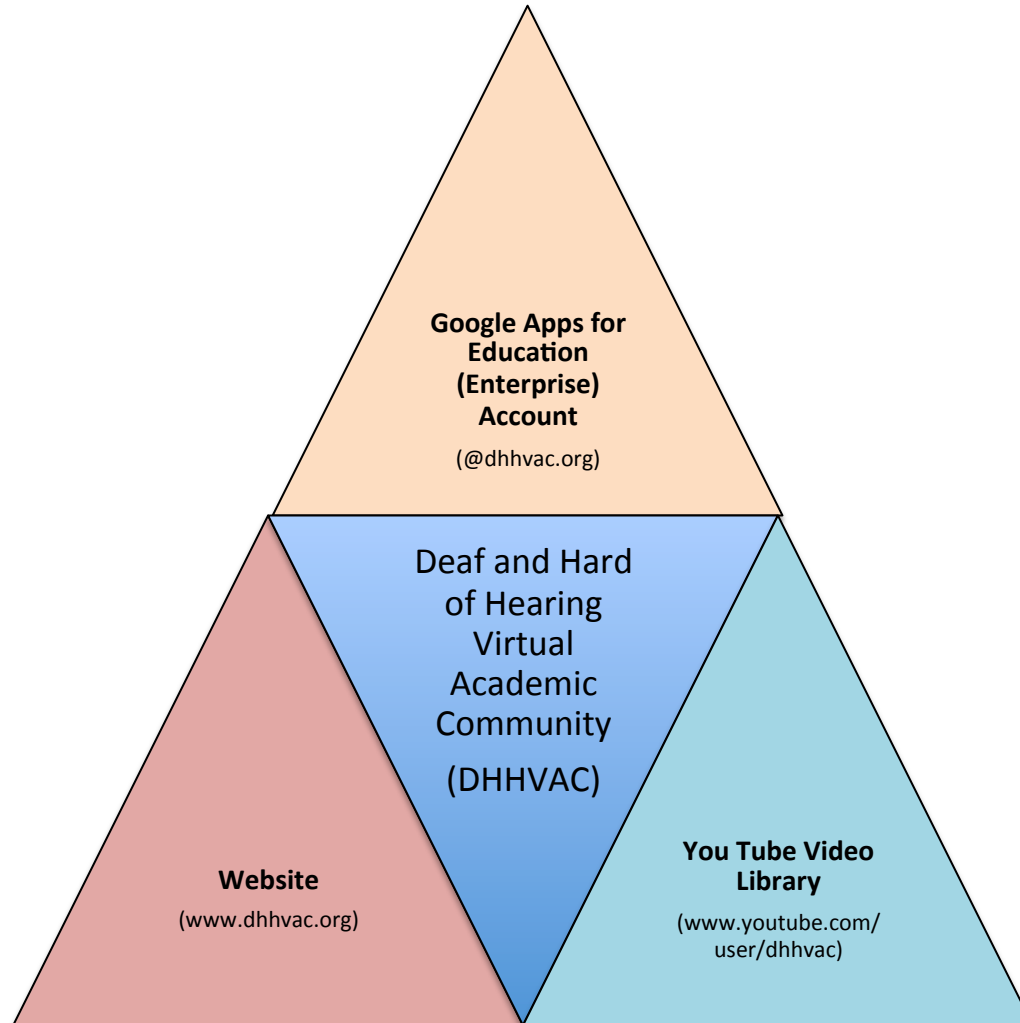   - Incremental – building model in stages instead of all at once

Goal and Objectives

Objectives

1) Document and disseminate a description of the process of creating a model VAC for replication

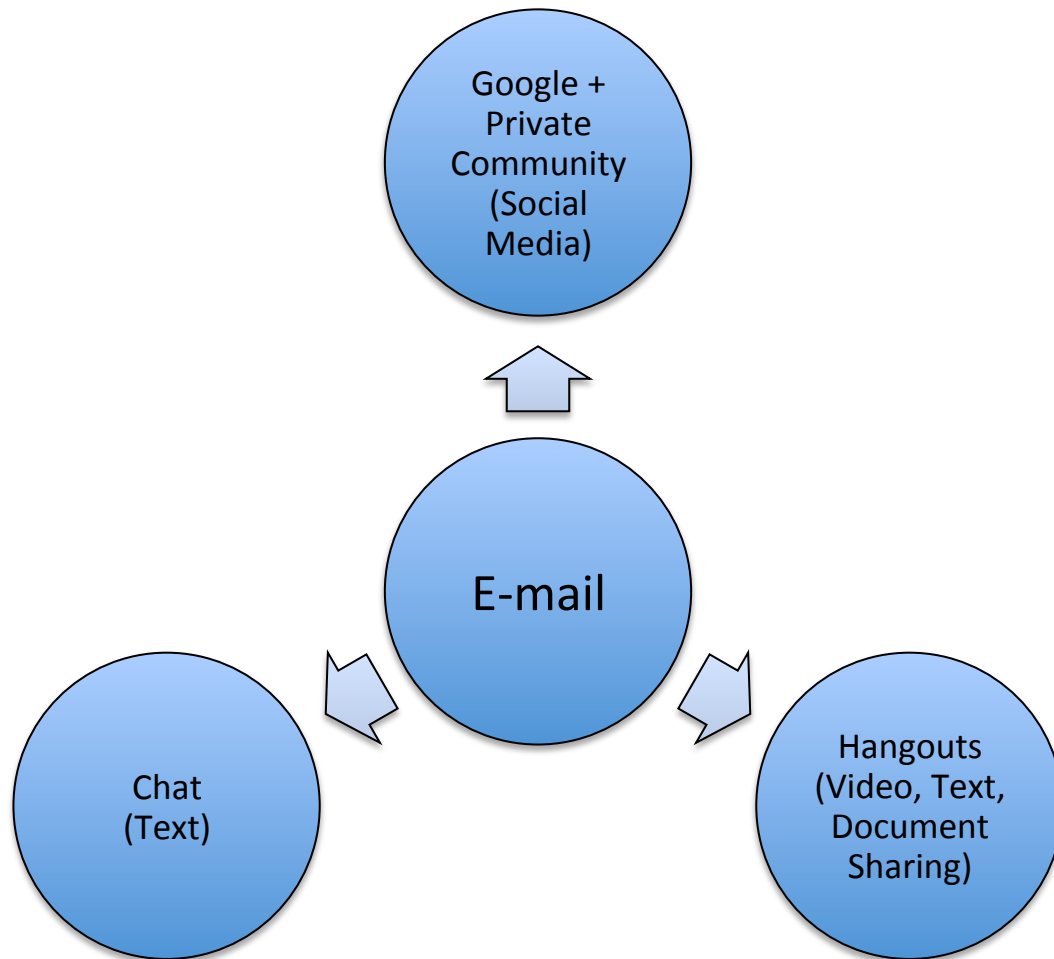2) Increase the GPAs and retention rates of D/HH students in STEM majors
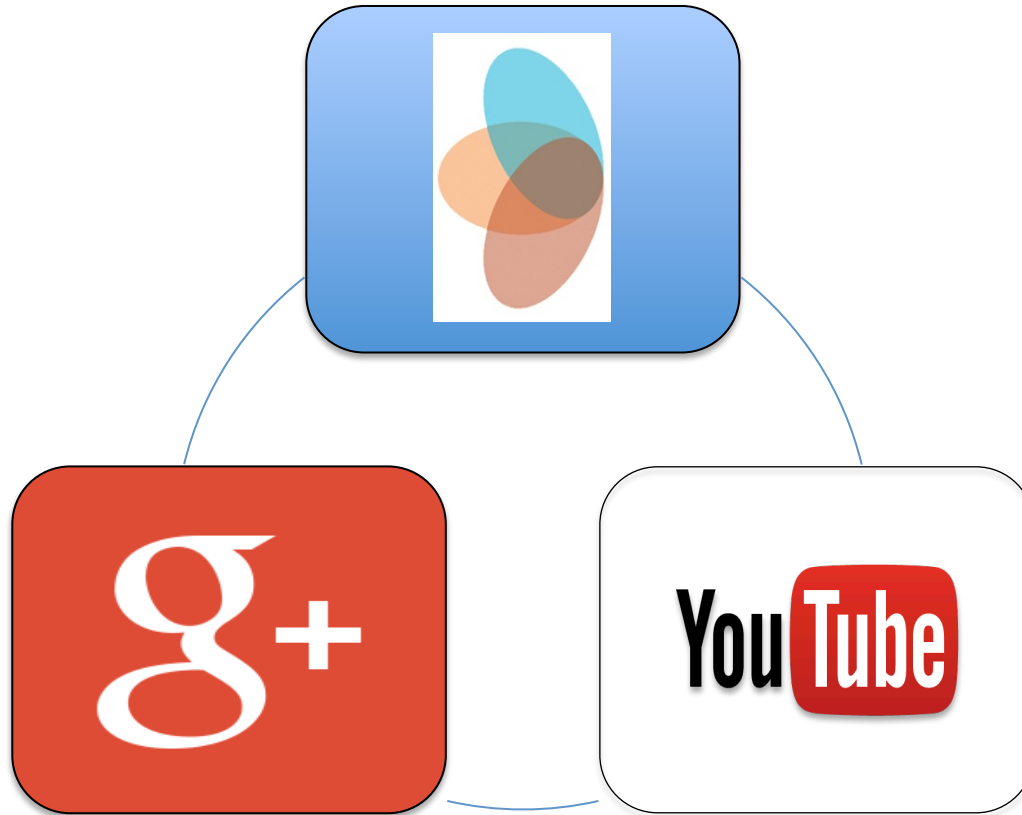
Model Infrastructure

Google Apps for Education (Enterprise) Account

(@dhhvac.org)

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Virtual Academic Community

(DHHVAC)

Website
(www.dhhvac.org)

You Tube Video Library
(www.youtube.com/user/dhhvac)

Communication Infrastructure
Google Apps for Education (Enterprise) Account

Dissemination Infrastructure

Infrastructure Monitoring (User Analytics)

Enterprise Account

- Community Activity
- Website

YouTube Channel

- Videos
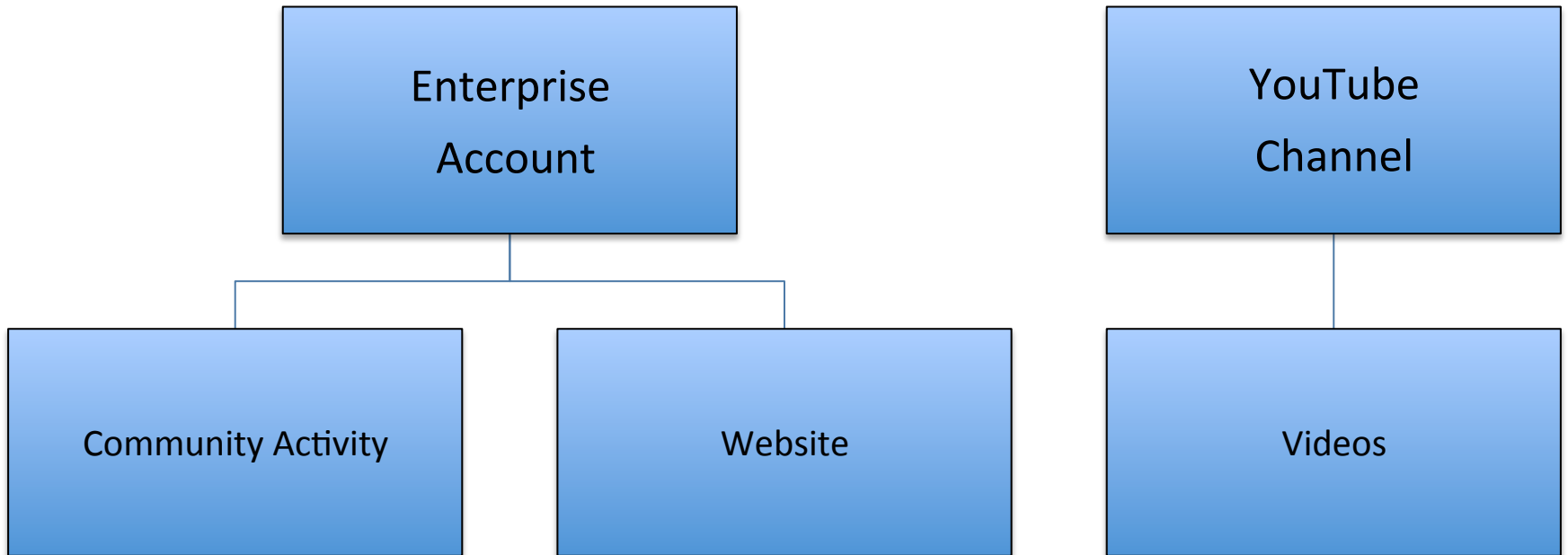
DHHVAC Model
Barriers & Strategies

Student Preparation

Remote Tutoring
Remote Mentoring
Using G+ Hangouts

Remote Mentoring
Peer-to-Peer Interaction
Using G+ Private Community

Accessible
STEM Information
Using Website,
G+ Private Community,
& G+ Public Page

Socialization

Accessible Media