

Practice to Theory to Practice

Knefelkamp, Golec, & Wells, 1985*

Practice

- Identifying concerns that need to be addressed
- Determining desired goals and outcomes

Description

- Investigating theories that may be helpful in understanding the issue and achieving the desired goal
- Analyzing relevant student characteristics from the perspective of the theories identified
- Analyzing characteristics of the environment associated with the issues from the perspective of identified theories

Translation

- Identifying potential sources of challenge and support, taking into account both student and environment characteristics, and recognizing factors that produce balance

Prescription

- Reexamine goals and outcomes in light of the theoretical analysis
- Designing the intervention using methods that will encourage achievement of goals

Practice

- Implementing the intervention
- Evaluating the outcomes of the intervention
- Redesigning the intervention if necessary

* Evans, N.J., Forney, D.S., Guido-DiBrito, F. (1998). *Student development in college: Theory, research, and practice*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.