collegevine

One data foundation behind Barry's student support, advising, and roadmap

How Barry University partnered with CollegeVine to build a shared data layer to improve the student experience, starting with a degree audit

Barry University

THE PROBLEM

Barry has always built around improving the student experience

Barry is a private Catholic university in Miami Shores, built around an integrated student success model: every student has a CASA coach, and a faculty mentoring model launches in the fall.

Answering one academic question meant pulling from the student information system, course catalogs, degree requirements, transfer evaluations, and the institutional knowledge that lives in people's heads. Coaches spent their appointment time confirming where a student stood instead of coaching them.



"When we admit a student, we are committing to intentionally design experiences so they receive the right support at the right time by the right person."

Dr. Elisa Giordano, AVP of Student Success, Barry University

EXPANDING AI ACROSS THE INSTITUTION

From point solutions to one data foundation

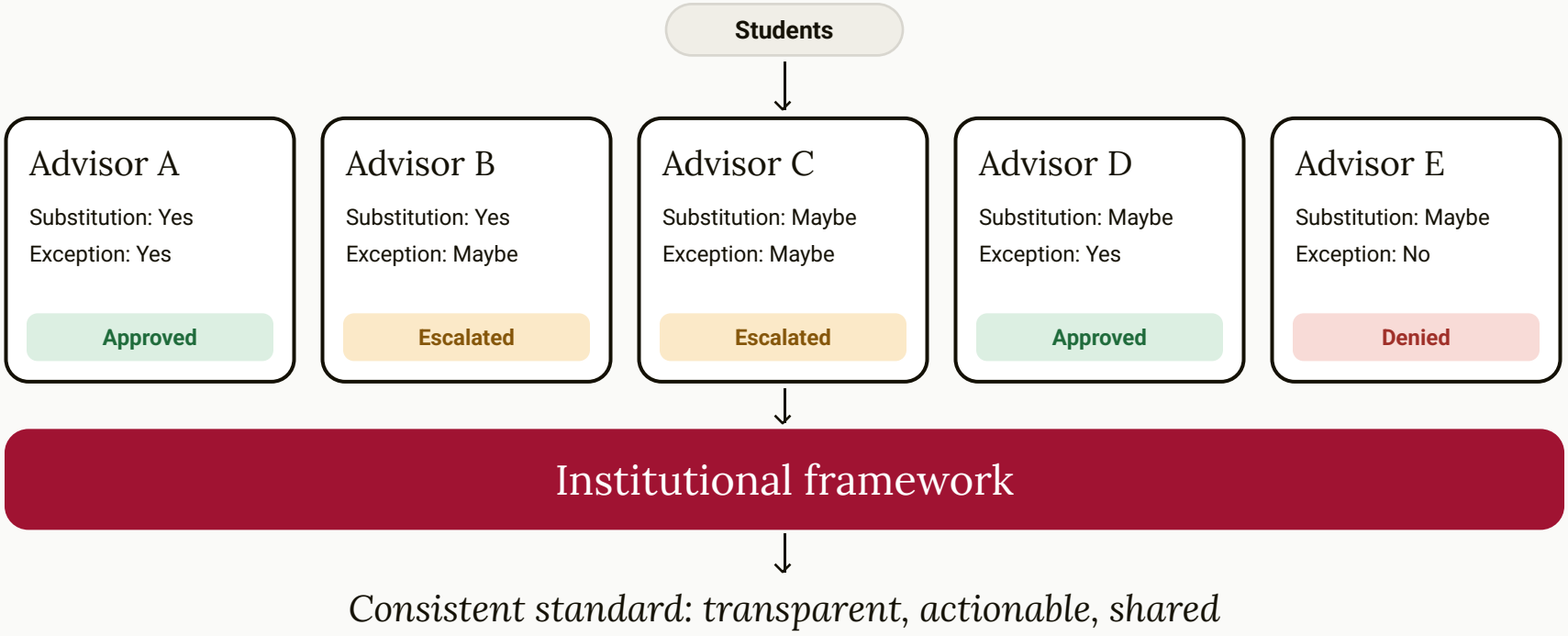
Barry expanded AI to solve more institutional gaps: improve and replace functionality across the institution, keep the student experience at the center, and remove legacy systems and move people to higher-value work.

The data layer under CollegeVine's Platform gave Barry a data foundation that allowed the team to rethink its longer-term roadmap.

THE STARTING POINT

There was no consistent standard: it varied by advisor, case by case

Course substitutions and exceptions were interpreted case by case. A student's outcome depended on which advisor they happened to sit with, which is not a practice a success model can scale on.

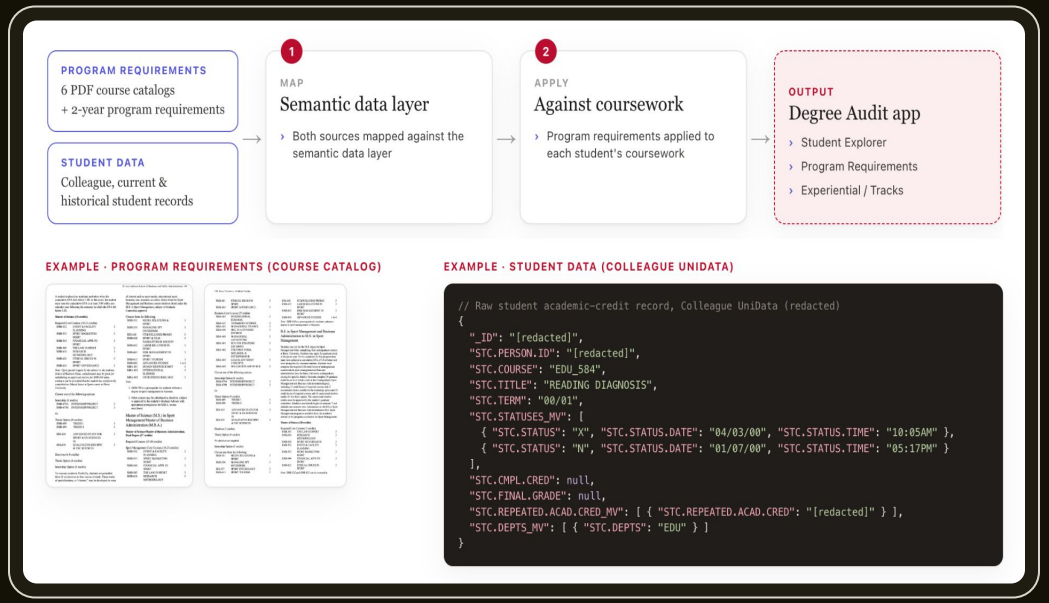


THE BUILD

Two sources, mapped to one layer, applied to every student

Barry's student records live in Colleague; its requirements lived in PDF catalogs across the institution. CollegeVine ingested and normalized both, mapped them to a shared semantic layer, and applied program rules against every student's coursework.

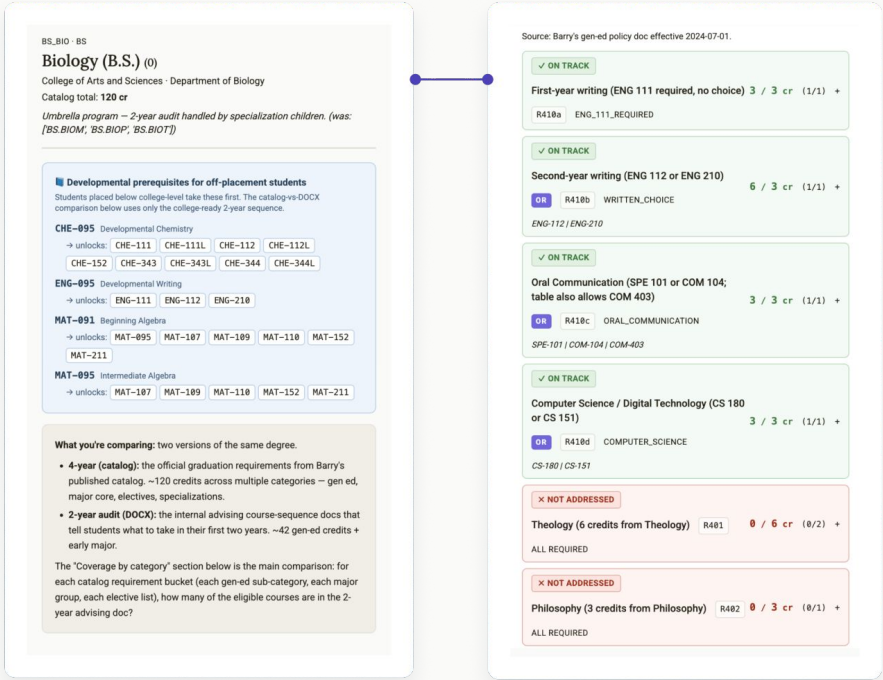
One trusted source that allows every conversation to start with confidence instead of verification.



What the degree audit achieved

Live at Barry today across 2,566 students and 6 mapped catalogs.

- **One source of truth**
- **Four-lens tracking**
- **Proactive flags**
- **A consistent set of program rules**



MEET ADRIAN · AI ONE STOP

Adrian answers 24/7, now on the degree audit

Adrian has been live for several months over email, SMS, phone, and webchat, checking in before students think to ask.

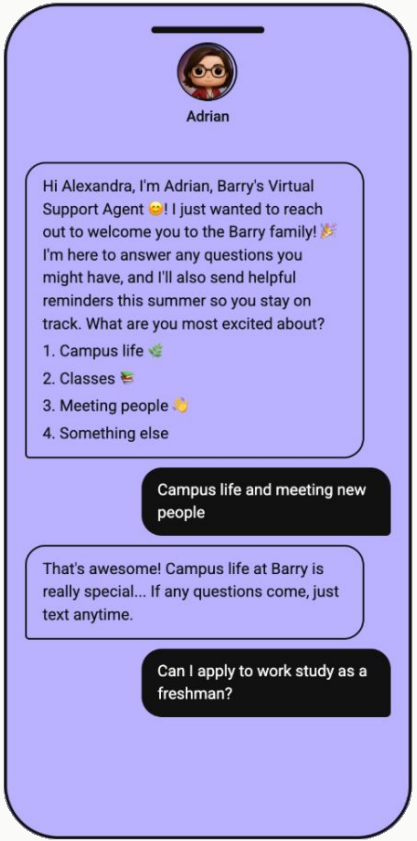
On top of the semantic layer she can name the credits standing between a student and an on-time graduation, and book the coaching appointment in the same conversation.

10,000+
SMS to 3,300 recipients in 90 days

900
emails across 500 students

34%
of conversations after hours or on weekends

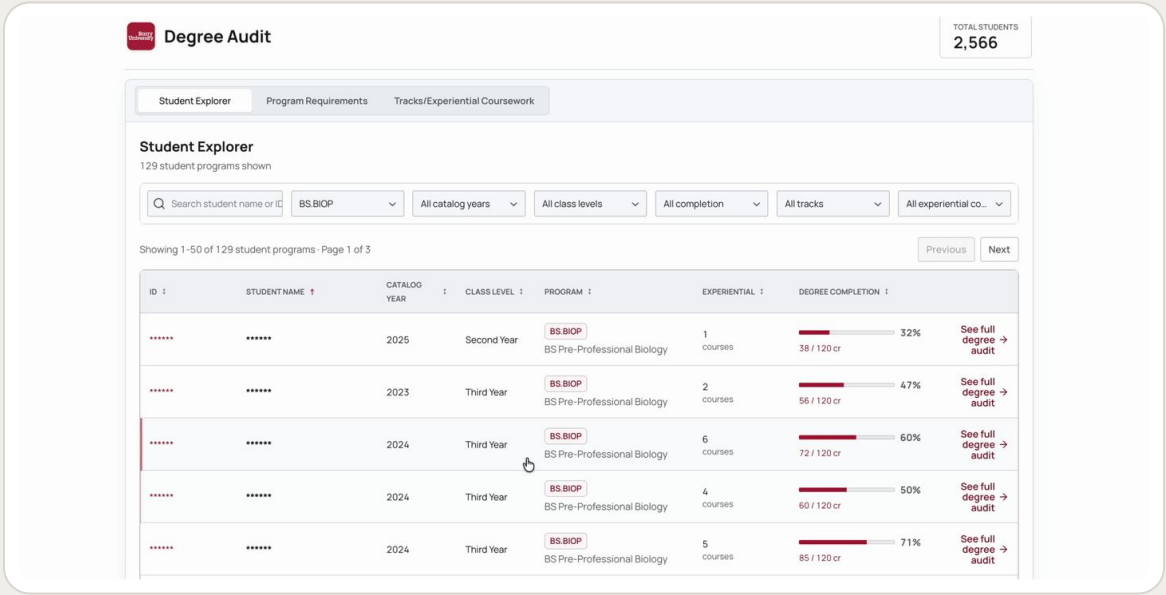
15
outreach campaigns launched



The live degree audit application

Staff can explore students by program, catalog year, class level, and completion, and open the full degree audit.

The app has three views: Student Explorer, Program Requirements, and Tracks and Experiential Coursework.



The same record in a shared view

Everyone in a student's success network now works from one academic picture, read through the lens their role needs.

01

Cabinet

Efficiency that lets leadership move to higher-value work

02

Faculty

One shared view for everyone

03

Advisor

The completion picture and recommended next steps

04

Registrar and student services

The same record, seen through a support lens

05

Students

Hyperpersonalized insights based on their degree

Use cases on the roadmap, powered by Ontology

Ontology, the data layer run by the CollegeVine platform, also supports legacy system migration. Agents can handle the migration work, simplifying the transition.

01

Operations

Vendor spend optimization

02

Academic

Course schedule optimization, Retention risk modeling

03

Enrollment and aid

Scholarship matching and fund optimization, Student lifetime value and aid leveraging model



"Implementing the technology was the easy part. Trust took intention. … And the lesson underneath everything: an AI agent is only as good as the data underneath it."

Yvette Brown Koottungal, VP for Digital Transformation and CIO, Barry University