John F Loase* (john.loase@concordia-ny.edu), Concordia College, 171 White Plains Rd., Bronxville, NY 10708. Statistics: The Key to College Success for Educationally Under-Prepared Students. Preliminary report.

IN 2005, the United Stated Department of Education revealed mathematics to be the most serious obstacle to college graduation in the U.S. The report went on to characterize mathematics as an insurmountable barrier for the economically disadvantaged student. In Dec. of 2007, Loase presented a sequence of strategies to remedy this problem("Statistics: The Key to Success in College and Life", Focus). This talk will discuss the way Concordia College-NY breaks down this "insurmountable barrier" to college success with a near 100% success rate in Statistics of those, who attend regularly. Loase's past innovations in remedial mathematics ("An Alternative to Computer Assisted Instruction", Communicator, 1987), were promising in that the success rate in individualized remedial courses was statistically significantly increased. Unfortunately, these courses were very expensive and available to a select few. The statistically significant innovation did not significantly increase the graduation rate of the economically disadvantaged students. We need to rethink our role, as college professors, in the epedemic of remedial mathematics failure, scrutinize how our requirements may contribute to this societal problem, and innovate solutions. (Received May 16, 2008)