Response to the external program review for Campus & Community Life

February 2010

Summary

During the 2008-2009 academic year, the IUPUI Division of Student Life participated in an external program review for the Office of Campus & Community Life (CCL). During the fall semester, CCL staff, under the guidance of Interim Director Patty Alvarez, completed a self-study report detailing the office’s history and development. In the spring semester, a five-person external review team conducted a two-day campus visit. Their thoughtful work resulted in a final report, submitted during late summer 2009. The report outlined suggested recommendations for continuous improvement to CCL, the Division of Student Life, and the campus. During the 2009-2010 academic year, under the leadership of Assistant Vice Chancellor Dr. Frank E. Ross, action items for the further development of CCL were established.

Major recommendations for CCL from the external review team

- Strengthen CCL’s role in implementing the IUPUI academic plan.
- Adopt a new name for CCL—one clearly understood by students.
- Consider expansion of CCL programming in Gateway courses, through the RISE initiative, and into the majors and capstone experiences.
- Consider how CCL can be more intentional with regard to faculty outreach.
- Explore ways CCL can partner with the Multicultural Center to enhance engagement of all students at IUPUI.
- Expand partnerships/collaboration both within CCL and outside of the department.

Action items developed as a result of the external review process

- CCL will change its name.
  - The new name for CCL will be The Office for Student Involvement (OSI).
  - This name was chosen based on feedback from current CCL staff, undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty and staff, collected from surveys and focus groups.
  - Activities to announce the new name will begin following spring break 2010, and will be organized by Andrea Anderson, Director of Communications and Development for the Division of Student Life.
  - The new name will be in place in time to greet the class of 2014 during new student orientation.
• CCL will focus its work around three primary areas, allowing for additional collaboration both within and outside of the office. The three focus areas include: social justice, leadership development, and supporting the academic mission of IUPUI.
  o Current CCL staff job descriptions have been rewritten to include these three focus areas and to ensure all staff are advancing these areas of focus.
  o The role of the current CCL Coordinator for Multicultural Student Engagement has been restructured and will reflect a focus on social justice education.
  o The role of the current CCL Coordinator for Student Programs has been restructured and will reflect a focus on academic engagement.
  o The responsibility for coordination of current CCL leadership programming will move from the Associate Director for Leadership Development to a shared responsibility among all the coordinators. and its coordination will be spread among Coordinators.
  o CCL will develop strategies to expand its work in supporting the IUPUI Academic Plan.
  o CCL will expand its work with first year seminar/ learning community/ Themed Learning Community faculty, and will begin to support faculty teaching in Gateway courses.
  o CCL will continue to work intentionally with first year students, and will develop strategies to support other student populations in transition, such as sophomores and transfer students.

• CCL will be reorganized administratively to support its ability to be effective and efficient in advancing student engagement.
  o The scope of the Associate Directors’ leadership will be broadened and their roles will include departmental-wide responsibilities.
  o Space allocation within the office is being reviewed to ensure we are serving our students and staff well.
  o Reallocation of resources and elimination of some graduate student positions will lead to the development of two new Assistant Coordinators. Their work will focus on supporting student engagement through community service and student activities.
  o The responsibility for advising the Student Activities Programming Board (SAPB) will move from the current CCL Coordinator for Student Programs to the Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator working with student activities.
  o The responsibility for advising the Student Development Funding Committee (SDFC) will move from the current CCL Associate Director for Leadership Development to the Director.

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