

University Committee on the Student Learning Experience

Meeting Notes

November 1, 2017

8:30 – 10:00 AM, CAS Conference Room

Present: R. Hessinger, P. Mullane, D. Shutkin, A. Wainwright, M. Farrar, S. Crahen, Sr. K. Feely, N. Santilli, J. Myers, S. Love, K. Schuele, C. DeMarchi, A. Miciak

1. Feedback on Notes from October 4 Meeting

No comments

Introductory Remarks: Opened with comments about the Target City--- S. Love and N. Santilli reviewed the efforts in Buffalo. HS visits and reception. The team visited four high schools: Canisius High School, Nardin Academy, St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute, and St. Francis High School. The JCU team discussed our academic programs, scholarship opportunities, and ways JCU will support the work of the high schools as they help their students discern whether JCU is a good fit for their college experience. The alumni reception was well-attended despite the bad weather. There is a young, energetic alumni board in Buffalo anxious to help get the word out about JCU.

2. Working Group/ Subcommittee Updates

- a. Experiential Learning: Major topic of the day. See below.
- b. Justice Education:

E. Peck was unable to attend the meeting but sent this brief report via email.

The Justice Working Group has met and is working on these four tasks:

- Identifying common definitions on key terms and how to share them with the community;
- Exploring means of enabling programs (academic and administrative) to identify a justice educational pathway for their students;
- Mapping the experience of justice education across all four years for undergraduates and exploring how this can be done in graduate education, and;

- Discussing the need to identify key examples of understanding justice work at the institutional level.

J. Myers indicated that defining justice for our campus is a significant undertaking. It is important that we develop an institutional description/definition of justice that will frame our justice work and how we will demonstrate progress in this area.

c. Persistence and Completion:

Reviewed meeting notes—data review what we need and what we would like, Males overrepresented in our persistence challenge, CSI, barriers to persistence on our campus, such as, declaration of major, course repeat policy, advising, introductory course availability, and course scheduling. Facilitators to success:

Prioritizing the work + partnership programs---What is the curriculum? How do we designate these students in our system? Strategies for accounting students interested or committing to these programs.

Good discussion on the overall review of report notes. Next steps include prioritizing work to identify short term and long term goals.

d. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:

Strategic planning process, Ed leading, DEI and others will be part of the strategic planning process. Jeanne will send a communication to campus.

3. Major topic – Experiential Learning

P. Mullane + Sr. K. Feely

Survey: The working group developed a survey to gather information on experiential learning activities across BSOB and CAS. The survey was distributed to the BSOB faculty with a very high response rate. CAS faculty will receive the survey soon. The survey data will be used to create an interview protocol as the committee loops back to departments and

programs to gain a deeper understanding of experiential learning embedded in departments and programs.

A robust discussion followed on the early findings. Suggestions were offered to capture the array of experiential learning activities, where experiential learning happens, whether it is required or an optional activity, and whether experiential learning is a program requirement or simply the effort of an individual faculty member.

A committee member asked: How are you capturing the experiential learning opportunities/activities outside of the academic departments? P. Mullane and K. Feely indicated that this year's focus is on academic programs with the next step focused on capturing the co-curricular activities.

Another question: What is the end-game? Committee members discussed how we may leverage these activities to create a comprehensive look at the learning experience, help students integrate into their self-promotion, and gain a better understanding of success and challenges in implementing these experiences. Also, understanding the interconnectedness between curricular and co-curricular experiences to have a greater understanding of what students need to do to complete their academic experiences that lead to degree completion.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00am.

Fall Meeting Schedule

November 15 (subcommittees meet), 29

December 13