Pathway Goal: Community Partnerships

Action Item # 1-5

Report:
☐ Mid-Year: December 2016
☒ Year-End: April 2017

Action Item Description:
Provide experiences through research, real-world projects, and/or the curriculum that are valued in the workplace.

Submitted By:
Name: Sue DiBella
Department: Office of Community Engagement

Working Group Members:
Name: Sharon Young
Department: Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship

Name: Kendall Hartley
Department: Graduate College

Name: Sunny Gittens
Department: Student Engagement and Diversity

Name: Rich Clark
Department: Residential Life

Name: John Osborn
Department: Lee Business School

Provide a written overview of the year-long process for your working group.

In addition to continuing current data collection, this group is exploring options that may help flesh out the “real-world experience” variable. The current anticipated outcomes include the number of UG students involved in research, tracked by the Office of Undergraduate Research, reported annually; number of doctoral dissertations and master’s theses, tracked by the Graduate College, reported annually; number of students involved in service-learning opportunities, tracked by Student Engagement & Diversity, reported annually; and identify process for tracking student participation in real-world projects, analyzed and reported by Lee Business School.
2016-17 Accomplishments

The Office of Undergraduate Research asked faculty for the number of undergraduate student researchers they worked with in fall 2016, and 95 faculty responded with 72 faculty members indicating that they worked with 442 undergraduate students that semester. When this list was combined with the responses for Spring 2016, a total of 217 faculty reported working with at least 816 undergraduate student researchers during spring and fall 2016 (although not an academic year, it gives an impression of the annual number of undergraduates engaging in research on campus). The response rate was much lower for the fall 2016 survey compared to spring 2016, however, so the Office of Undergraduate Research is currently developing a system to track undergraduate student researcher activity more effectively that relies less on faculty response. The Graduate College already collects annual data on dissertations and theses, (Fall 2015 - 42 Theses and 40 Dissertations; Spring 2016 - 72 Theses and 66 Dissertations; Summer 2016 - 32 Theses and 17 Dissertations; and Fall 2016 - 43 Theses and 31 Dissertations), but is working with appropriate units on campus to create a means for tracking and reporting the number of professional papers; this data is unavailable at this time. Student Engagement and Diversity is working with the Provost’s Office to track service learning. (See CMP Report 1-1 for additional detail.) The Lee Business School is developing a tool to survey (or have colleges report through an online form) real-world projects being conducted by students on campus, whether in the classroom, through an organization, or other activity on campus.

Recommendations

None

2017-18 Next steps

• What should the goals / activities be for the subcommittee?
• Who should be responsible?

Tracking relevant metrics is evolving as described above. The Office of Undergraduate Research, the Graduate College, Student Engagement and Diversity, and the Lee Business School are exploring opportunities to increase access to data and to streamline data capture processes. The same working group members as listed above are responsible and should continue to be involved.

Please review the list below and “X” the appropriate box(es).

☐ Potential resources required
☐ Any reports generated by this working group
☐ Metrics to be used
☐ No additional reference material

Any additional information you wish to share.