

Pathway Goal: Community Partnerships

Action Item #
1-5

Report:

Mid-Year: December 2016

Year-End: April 2017 (Updated 7/20/17)

Action Item Description:

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

Submitted By:

Name

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Working Group Members:

Name

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Department

Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship

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Student Engagement and Diversity

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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, we are 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 on the number of professional papers; this data is unavailable at this time. Student Engagement and Diversity tracks data annually and has provided the 2015-2016 metric numbers related to number of service learning courses partnering with Student Engagement and Diversity, including metrics tracking courses, sections, instructors, and student participations numbers. 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?

The goals are to continue moving forward as we have been, to look for opportunities to increase access to data, and to streamline data capture processes. The same working group members 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.

July 20, 2017 Addendum –
The Graduate College submitted the following data per the July 1, 2017 reporting requirement:

Semester	Theses	Dissertations
Spring 2016	72	66
Summer 2016	32	17
Fall 2016	43	31

The Office of Undergraduate Research submitted the following data per the July 1, 2017 reporting requirement:

“We had 832 undergraduate students reported to us as being engaged in research in 2016 (Spring 2016 - Fall 2016) with 194 UNLV faculty members, but we do not have a number for the entire 2016-2017 year (we do not have a Spring 2017 number). This number was obtained by surveying faculty and is based on the responses we received to our inquiry to faculty. We are currently developing a system that will more accurately track the number of undergraduate students engaged in research so that we will not need to rely on faculty responses.”