

APPENDIX "J"

Purdue University North Central

The Student Experience

White Paper

February 28, 2008

Premise: The campus community embraces the concept that the student experience at Purdue University North Central (PNC) is based on the three fundamental concepts of a land grant institution- Learning, Discovery and Engagement.

Goals and Objectives of the Learning Component of the Student Experience

- I. PNC should enhance campus-wide efforts to increase student success and learning.
- II. PNC will align and integrate campus offices, infrastructure and academic programs in an effort to substantially improve the student experience as well as dedicate financial resources to address this effort.

Learning Strategies

1. Update all classrooms to smart rooms.
2. Assess feasibility of utilizing faculty mentors for retention of first year students.
3. Expand current degree offerings to meet the needs of the community.
4. Develop successful programs for those who are educationally disadvantaged.
5. Hire additional staff and faculty in high growth areas.
6. PNC should heighten responsiveness to other student needs through broader surveys and open forums.

Assessment/Evaluation

1. All classrooms will have smart technology in them by the year 2011.
2. Bachelor Degree offerings will be increased by 20% by the year 2013.
3. Feasibility studies will be conducted and then recommendations made to the Chancellor regarding faculty mentors for first year students by 2010.
4. Budget planning and implementation of a system of analyzing high growth enrollment areas will be conducted regarding faculty and staff hiring by 2011.

Goals and Objectives of the Discovery Component of the Student Experience

- I. PNC will set high academic expectations of our students while in attendance.

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Discovery Strategies

1. Assess feasibility and then establish a center on campus to coordinate learning activities outside the classroom to include internships, career planning and graduate school preparation.
2. Enhance the Career Service Department to meet and exceed the expectations of our students.
3. Investigate the use of stipends for unpaid internships.
4. Conduct survey of all departments to determine laboratory needs. Then adapt and expand Learning Labs that will incorporate practical experience with academic theory.
5. Expand departmental research support for assistantships.
6. Increase international educational and cultural exchange opportunities.
7. Increase the aesthetic awareness by offering more courses in art, music, and culture.

Assessment/Evaluation

1. Budget allocations for research assistants approved for Fall 2009.
2. Feasibility study of cost to update design of labs completed for Fall 2010.
3. A center for international and cultural exchange is established by 2011.
4. New courses in art, music and culture are expanded by 30% by the 2011.

Goals and Objectives of the Engagement Component of the Student Experience

- I. The entire campus community will embrace a culture where there is a commitment to change to ensure a quality student experience.
- II. PNC will invest in strategies that will improve outreach, recruitment, retention and graduation of our students.

Engagement Strategies

1. Construct a Multi-purpose Student Service Activity Center (SSMAC).
2. Expand student involvement on all appropriate campus committees.
3. Establish partnerships with local businesses for graduate placement.
4. Involve alumni in mentoring of juniors and seniors in all majors.
5. Increase community outreach programs and opportunities for all students.
6. Expand student organizations.
7. Continue to act as a resource for k-12 educational programs and expand resources according to need.
8. Create appropriate opportunities for members from the external community to provide input into all facets of the student experience.
9. Increase the number of service learning opportunities.
10. Increase funding and support for student service learning.

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Assessment/Evaluation

1. Retention for first year students will improve to 65% by the year 2009.
2. The freshman student satisfaction survey will indicate that 20% of the freshman students surveyed will be more satisfied by their experience at PNC by 2012.
3. Increases in student satisfaction will be achieved in other survey instruments including graduation surveys.
4. The external community will become more involved in many student activities, and classroom activities.

Resources

The overarching thought process of the Student Experience Tiger Team about resources is that past practices and amounts will be insufficient for achieving the strategies the strategic plan currently under consideration. Instead the entire Purdue University North Central community must seek out new resources to include:

1. Reallocation of resources within the existing budget of the college
2. Additional Grants (public and private)
3. Alternative revenue streams
4. Public and Private Partnerships
5. Increasing student tuition and fees
6. Alternative tuition plans-(ie-flat tuition for full time students)
7. Gift Funds
8. Endowments
9. Scholarships

References

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