Transformative Learning Experiences for Success in the 21st Century

A Framework for Assessing Student Learning

Student Affairs Mission Statement  Student Affairs at the University of Illinois transforms lives through quality programs, services, facilities and living environments that create the Illinois Experience at Urbana-Champaign. Student Affairs empowers students to achieve the greatest potential in their personal and academic development.

Student Affairs Strategic Goals
1. Enhanced Knowledge and Appreciation of Diversity
2. Environmentally-Sound Facilities and Culturally Relevant Facilities
3. Clarity and Enhancement of the Student Experience at Illinois
4. Engagement with and Commitment to Partners and Stakeholders
5. Responsive to Emerging Issues in Higher Education

University Strategic Goals
1. Leadership for the 21st Century
2. Academic Excellence
3. Breakthrough Knowledge and Innovation
4. Transformative Learning Environment
5. Access to the Illinois Experience

Creating a Culture of Assessment

The Division of Student Affairs at the University of Illinois is committed to cultivating a culture of assessment. Through assessment we advance and improve our programs and services to produce promising and best practices that promote accountability and student success. Student Affairs transforms students’ lives by empowering students to achieve their greatest potential. Intentional and strategic assessments will provide evidence of quality programs, services, facilities, and living environments that sustain the Illinois Experience at Urbana-Champaign and student learning outside the classroom.

Conceptual and Theoretical Anchors

Grounded in CAS standards and theories based on best practices in student development and assessment, Student Affairs will assess its programs and services to provide continuous quality assurance and accountability. The overarching broad learning domain is Transformative Learning Experiences for Success in the 21st Century. The sub-domains are multicultural competency, wellness behavior, and career and leadership development. The learning outcomes that will stem from these sub-domains will inform evidence-based decision making.

Sub-Domains for Student Affairs Learning Outcomes

Units will develop unit-specific learning outcomes based upon the learning sub-domains herein. The overarching domain and sub-domains are based on the mission statements and strategic goals of the Division and University.

Multicultural Competency

Students will learn how to interact with and express appreciation for diversity and pluralism—which would include the differences and similarities between cultures, socio-economic status, religion, political orientation, sexual orientation, and other identities and characteristics.

Based on SA Strategic Goals 1 & 2 and Campus Strategic Goals 4 & 5:

1. Students will demonstrate knowledge acquisition, integration, and application of multicultural competency.
2. Students will understand that inclusivity of all individuals is an important component of their Illinois Experience.
3. Students will develop and demonstrate intra and interpersonal skills leading to a positive attitude, inclusivity, and empathy for all individuals.
4. Students will learn how to develop solutions to complex problems by engaging diverse perspectives and individuals.

Wellness
Behavior

Students will learn how to achieve a healthy balance among competing life commitments and choices in areas such as educational issues, personal commitments, physical environment, health issues, professional goals, interpersonal relationships, and faith and spiritual beliefs to become healthy and engaged individuals.

Based on SA Strategic Goals 3 & 5 and Campus Strategic Goals 1, 2, 3, & 4:

1. Students will demonstrate practices that improve or maintain their physical health.
2. Students will understand the importance of financial balance and acquire skills to ensure it.
3. Students will engage in activities that will develop their emotional balance.
4. Students will learn how to maintain their mental health.
5. Students will learn how to balance their social and academic life.
6. Students will become aware and learn how the environment affects their daily life.

Academic, Career & Leadership Development

Students will learn skills needed to be informed and engaged citizens while contributing their academic, career and leadership talents to making a difference on campus, locally and globally.

Based on SA Strategic Goals 3, 4, & 5 and Campus Strategic Goals 1, 2, 3, & 4:

1. Students will acquire knowledge, integrate it, and apply it through experiential learning opportunities such as internships, campus activities, local, and global involvement.
2. Students will practice leadership skills, such as teamwork, project management, critical thinking, and conflict-resolution leading to increased academic and career confidence.
3. Students will develop intra & interpersonal skills that will help them effectively articulate their strengths and abilities on campus, locally, and globally.
4. Students will learn social responsibility and its’ relationship to leadership and career development.

Submitted by the Division of Student Affairs Assessment Committee on July 3, 2013 to Renee Romano, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs by Belinda De La Rosa, Co-Chair, Anna Tsai, Co-Chair, and the following members: Ffordeliza Bowman (Illini Union), Keri Carter Pipkins (Career Center), Joycelyn Landrum-Brown (Office of Inclusion & Intercultural Relations), Gary Miller (Campus Recreation), Jim Rooney (University Housing), Nathan Sanden (University Housing), Wallace Southerland, III (Office of Minority Student Affairs), Xiaoying Wu (Counseling Center).