



# **Millersville University Strategic Plan For Student Affairs Division**

## **Vision**

The Division of Student Affairs will be a leader of innovative approaches for student-centered learning and development, and we will continually challenge ourselves as professionals to intentionally develop programs and services to meet the changing needs of our diverse student population. We will engage with the campus and surrounding communities in support of a comprehensive global approach to the learning and development of our students.

## **Mission Statement**

The Division of Student Affairs contributes to fulfilling the educational mission of Millersville University and the State System of Higher Education by employing a holistic approach to student learning and development. The Student Affairs staff works collaboratively with faculty and staff to provide a diverse student body with programs, services and activities designed to contribute to learning and the development of students' personal, social and leadership skills. The Division strives to build a campus atmosphere in which all students can become involved in the University community, make informed choices, engage in critical thinking and understand and appreciate diversity. Through the Student Affairs programs, students are challenged to assume responsibility for their behavior while striving to make positive contributions to the campus community of which they are a part.

## **Goals**

Student Affairs staff will fulfill the Division's mission by:

- Focusing primarily on efforts intended to bring about high levels of student engagement in learning and personal growth activities.

- Using holistic approaches to learning in order to link academic and co-curricular programs and experiences.
- Developing and implementing programs and services that help students achieve competencies and emotional maturity, become autonomous, establish identities, develop communication and interpersonal skills, clarify purpose and make career choices in their lives and develop integrity.
- Providing opportunities for students to learn the value of social responsibility, diversity, civility and inclusiveness.
- Designing co-curricular programs that increase students' social integration into the University community.
- Offering high quality and customer centered services that support student recruitment, educational progress and persistence to graduation.
- Building partnerships with faculty, staff and community representatives in order to enhance the quality of programs and services for students.
- Assessing the learning, development and growth of students and utilizing assessment data to ensure continuous improvement and relevance to Student Affairs programs and services.

## **Strategic Goals**

### 2008-2011

Strategic goals include the University Strategic Directions as an overarching focus for the annual objectives within Student Affairs. Additionally, the strategic priorities established annually by the President's Cabinet are incorporated into the Student Affairs annual goals; and finally, the above mentioned overarching goals for Student Affairs are revisited annually at the Student Affairs retreat, and objectives are established accordingly.

1. Create academic programs of national distinction
2. Nurture a passion for learning
3. Foster an appreciation for the liberal arts
4. Cultivate a community of diverse people, thoughts, and perspectives
5. Develop life and leadership skills that promote the greater public good
6. Provide responsible stewardship
7. Collaborate with divisions of Academic Affairs and Social Equity to Support recruitment and retention initiatives
8. Support the University Promise Campaign
9. Develop, implement, and monitor cost containment and revenue generation strategies

10. Increase levels of student engagement in learning through the enhancement of Division programs/services and development of a campus environment that is student centered and supports holistic approaches to learning.
11. Develop and strengthen partnerships within the division staff, with other faculty/staff and with individuals/organizations in the larger community in order to collaboratively enhance the quality of programs and services for students
12. Increase levels of user friendliness and demonstrated care for students in the services provided to them
13. Develop and implement methods of assessing student learning and satisfaction with their participation in division programs and services.

## **Annual Objectives for Meeting Strategic Goals**

Student Affairs staff establish annual objectives representing new initiatives and accompanying action plans for achieving them.

The Division annual goals for implementing the Strategic Plan include:

- Expanding diversity awareness training for all incoming students.
- Employing standard metrics and best practices to enhance the quality of service to student and enhance recognition of the Student Affairs expertise at Millersville University.
- Enhancing professionalism and recognition of the departments within the division.
- Expand and assess the family and parent orientation for incoming students.
- Developing cross discipline/departmental strategies to comprehensively support and facilitate learning and student development.
- Employing technology that enhances the educational process by increasing web-based, on-line service.
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- Developing and implementing methods of assessing student learning and satisfaction.
- Enhancing self-directed learning among students and their families engaged in the programs and services of Student Affairs.
- Engaging students in critical issues impacting the college experience.

- Engaging students in activities and initiatives to promote self-directed learning.
- Increasing the knowledge and understanding of the diversity goals of the University.
- Increasing levels of involvement in co-curricular programs for all students and students of color in particular.
- Collaborating with Civic & Community Engagement & Research Project to develop a comprehensive model for community service and service-learning programs.
- Strengthening efforts to combat student alcohol abuse by further enhancing late night weekend programs, social norms campaigns and assistance to students with substance abuse problems.
- Enhancing healthy life style/habits of students.
- Enhancing leadership and success skills of undergraduate students.
- Provide opportunities for students to enhance leadership skills through engagement in projects focused on wellness.
- Creating collaborative networks to address and prevent violence against women/sexual assault and domestic violence.
- Creating an engaged student body and connect the concept of engagement to sustained behavioral involvement in the learning process.
- Reinforcing fiscally responsible strategies and oversight.
- Ensuring the safety and security of the campus to support the mission of the institution and facilitating learning environments.
- Heightening awareness among students and families regarding financing of higher education.

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