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2014-2015 Action Projects

Assessment of General Education Student Learning Outcomes
This project will design and implement the final steps in a new campus process for assessment of the University General Education student learning outcomes. The primary campus units affected by the project are University General Education Committee, University Assessment Committee, and the faculty/departments offering the general education courses. Key processes impacted are the data gathering, reporting, and analysis of how the general education curriculum is achieving the desired student learning outcomes.

Campus Security Process for CALEA Accreditation
UNO Campus Security will begin the process to become accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA). This will primarily involve a review of policies, procedures, practices and training within the UNO Campus Security Department of which the entire UNO campus is impacted by. The entire Campus Security operation will be reviewed and analyzed by the CALEA certification team. Accreditation is commensurate with meeting or exceeding nearly 300 practices and procedures in Campus Security.

Framework for Shared Understanding
This Action Project will provide a clear framework for measurement, analysis, and application to support our campus culture of student-centered, data-informed decision-making. Included in this framework will be an inventory of assessment practices, a strategy for using these data for campus improvement, a common language, with definitions, of measurement and assessment terms, and a detailed and universally understood communication plan for dissemination of our framework of shared understanding.

Previous Action Projects Completed

Systemic Implementation for Meaningful Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)
UNO’s Assessment Committee establish a coordinated timeline reflecting checkpoints at which an external faculty team will review evidence of student learning for each program. The SLO checkpoints will be coordinated to facilitate meaningful opportunities for programs to respond to student-outcome data, ahead of formal program review and accreditation processes. Additionally, UNO’s Assessment Committee will investigate opportunities to enhance consistency of SLO measures across programs. Success in this endeavor will greatly improve UNO’s ability to identify, with greater confidence, exceptional program and student performance.

Dashboard Indicators for Strategic Plan Goals
The goal of this project is to provide meaningful quantitative data on progress toward meeting the Strategic Plan goals. This will be accomplished by developing and implementing a strategy for systematic review and revision of the visual analytic dashboards on the Strategic Plan website using key indicators selected to measure performance. Using the procedures developed, the dashboards will be updated and reviewed annually at the start of the academic year.

New Student Wellness Assessment and Strategic Support Initiative
The purpose of the project is to gather pre-enrollment student. It is intended that the information revealed in the survey will assist faculty and staff to provide customized strategic support for first year students. The associated strategic goal is to improve first to second year. The questions are intended to help students identify dimensions of wellness that could adversely impact their ability to be successful in college—and consequently impact their progress toward degree completion at UNO. With the analyzed data, a team of faculty and staff members will contact students with significant levels of identified concern(s) and provide them with specific resources or referrals in an attempt to eliminate or reduce issues impacting their success.

On-boarding for New Employees
This project will streamline and update all steps in the recruitment, selection and onboarding process for UNO employees and hiring managers.
Previous Action Projects Completed (continued)

Reporting on Student and Alumni Work and Educational Activities after Graduation
This action project will design a dashboard providing information on UNO’s effectiveness in preparing its students for their future work and educational activities.

Dashboards for Strategic Plan Goals
This project will improve campus accountability by developing and publishing dashboards for each of UNO’s three Strategic Plan goals. The indicators will be selected, type of visual will be determined, connection to dynamic and up-to-date data will be developed, and the dashboards will be posted on the Strategic Plan Website.

An Engaged Campus: Coordinating Volunteer & Service Opportunities, Activities, and Community
The primary goals are to (1) enhance volunteer/service experiences for UNO students, faculty, staff, and community partners and (2) improve accountability for UNO volunteer/service.

Exceptional Service, Lasting Impressions...Improving UNO Customer Service
The primary is to focus attention of campus personnel on the importance and impact of providing excellent customer service and how that improves campus operations, student experience and

Strengthening the Relationship: Professional Advisors--Faculty Advisors
The primary goal of this project is to improve the academic advising process in the College of Arts and Sciences by strengthening the relationship between the advising of freshmen by the professional advising staff and the advising of upper class students by faculty.

Academic Transitions: Coordinated Approach for First-Year Success
The primary goals for this project include (1) better preparing incoming first-year and transfer students for success from their first-year through to degree completion; (2) increase retention rates for incoming first-year and transfer students into their second year; (3) enhance student satisfaction and attachment to UNO; and (4) create a coordinated team approach for first-year and transfer student support.

Civic Participation Project
The goal of the Civic Participation Project is to provide intellectual and experiential opportunities for civic engagement, in the expectation of producing graduates with strong public awareness and a commitment to building and sustaining democracy through meaningful action in local, national, and international venues.

Coordination and Measuring Community Engagement
The UNO Strategic Planning Committee has identified the following steps necessary for this Action Project. 1) What are our Community Engagement (CE) activities currently? 2) What are our expectations for “acceptable progress” toward Goal 3 in the future? 3) How can we measure future progress in meeting Goal 3?

Enhancing Research and Creative Activity
As a self-defined “emerging research university” with an increasing number of doctoral programs and graduate students, UNO is seeking to more effectively coordinate the efforts of and communicate about our campus research and creative activity initiatives.

General Education: Student Learning Goals and Assessment
The primary goal of the UNO General Education: Student Learning Goals and Assessment Action Project is to complete a review of the current general education curriculum with the establishment of specific student learning goals, assessment and curriculum change processes.

Implementation of a coordinated Undergraduate Academic Advising System
Policies and procedures regarding undergraduate academic advising at UNO will be reviewed and evaluated. A coordinated, distributed model for academic advising that allows for decentralization while maximizing communication, efficiency and effective use of resources will be created and implemented.

myMAPP Faculty ePortfolio
The goals of the project are to design, develop, pilot, and implement an ePortfolio system to be used by faculty for multiple purposes, including the processes of annual review, reappointment, and tenure, as well as data collection for sharing collective accomplishments of faculty for reports and communication.