Creative Space: Collaborative Relationships between Faculty and Student Affairs Professionals

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Objectives

• Identify common student directed outcomes
• Identify challenges between professional staff and faculty as they work together
• Identify common that may get in the way
• Identify effective strategies of collaboration
What should students learn in higher education?

• Post it Brainstorm
• Write down 3 things that every college student should be able to do/know upon graduation.
How can faculty and staff work together to increase student learning/outcomes?

• What do these lists have in common?
Faculty and Staff Barriers

• Post-it brainstorm

• Write down things that you think would be/are challenging when working with faculty/professional staff
  – e.g. “Professor that knows a lot of research, but can’t practice what they preach…”
  – e.g. “Staff are touchy feely and don’t understand academic rigor…”
What can faculty and staff do to increase their collaborative practices to increase student learning?

• What do these two lists have in common?
The Two World’s Perceptions

• Faculty
  – Student
  – Classroom
  – Office hours
  – Theory
  – Failing grade
  – Grades

  – Tomāto

• Staff
  – Employee/Student
  – Workplace
  – Residence/Life
  – Practice
  – Student Struggles
  – Student Development

  – Tomāto
When Two Worlds Meet…

• Living-Learning Communities
• Common read (Faculty and staff, students, etc…)
• Incorporating learning outcomes in general practice
  – Student leadership positions
  – Resident Advisor

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=61v8eFvcqhw
Effective Communication

What is effective communication?

• Active listening
• Depersonalize situations
• Find common goals
• Brainstorm possible solutions
• Summarize goals and solutions
• Follow up to monitor progress
• Structured time for communication
Collaboration

What is collaboration?

• Collaboration involves cooperation, effective communication, shared problem-solving, planning, and finding solutions to ensure that all students receive the best education.

• Collaboration may take the form of consultation, peer coaching, teaming, or co-teaching

• Effective communication is the key to collaboration
Models of Collaboration

- Consultation
  - Expert giving advice to a person less knowledgeable in the consultant’s field of expertise (e.g. mentor programs, student support programs & interagency consultation)

- Coaching
  - Two or more people take turns advising each other (e.g. peer observation & reflection and support)

- Teaming
  - All members have equal ownership of team problems and solutions (e.g. alternative teaching, complementary instruction & team teaching)
Suggested Resources

