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January Newsletter

Setting the Future Direction of the Division

Spring semester is always an exciting time. It is the start of a new year as well as a new semester. Added to this is the energy and enthusiasm that our students bring with them as they return from a month-long hiatus. Of particular note as we start a new year is the work that has been completed on our division strategic plan. As you may recall, the university's strategic vision, Pro Futuris, was approved in 2012. Embedded in this plan are five aspirational statements: Transformative Education, Compelling Scholarship, Informed Engagement, Committed Constituents, and Judicious Stewardship. As part of Pro Futuris, each division is to create acts of determination and operational plans that will advance the aspirations of Pro Futuris. We have chosen to develop a division strategic plan that will frame our acts of determination and operational (or departmental) plans. This process is being led by directors, deans, and me with your input as you work on your respective departmental goals, outcomes and assessment plan. To date, we have affirmed our mission, established a vision statement for the division, and created our division strategic goals. These statements are provided below. In the upcoming months, we will write our values statement and identify acts of determination. While this is occurring, each department will work on their operational plans to include the review of current goals and outcomes and/or the establishment of new ones to further advance our mission, vision, and goals. We are excited about the progress we are making and look forward to developing a division strategic plan that will advance Pro Futuris and guide our division for years to come.

Division Mission Statement

Student Life seeks to enrich the Baylor experience through life-changing programs and services resulting in an integrated education known for leadership, service, Christian faith, and the total development of students.

Division Vision Statement

Student Life will be a transformative presence in all our students' lives, equipping them to make a positive impact on society.

Division Strategic Goals

Guided by this mission, the University's strategic vision, the wisdom of our professional discipline, and most of all, our common Christian faith, we cultivate an environment that nurtures calling, wholeness, community, and citizenship.

Student Life:

Supports students as they discern God's paths, plans, and purposes.

We help students discover calling.

 $Fosters\ healthy\ living, joyful\ experience, passionate\ scholarship, and\ depth\ of\ faith.$

We develop the whole student.

Encourages meaningful relationships, Christian hospitality, and charity in all things *We build community.*

Inspires and equips students to transform the world.

We cultivate global citizenship.



Division of Student Life

Community Leader GPAs

Campus Living and Learning is very proud of their Community Leader staff. Last semester (Fall of 2012), the current CL GPA was 3.539. The overall cumulative CL GPA was 3.583. Last semester, 28 different CLs had a GPA of 4.0 for the semester! Currently, 15 CLs have a cumulative GPA of 4.0.

East Village Construction Update



MLK, Jr. Day January 21

Men's Basketball vs. OK State January 21

Mosaic Service January 22

Women's Basketball vs. OU January 26

> Men's Tennis at Tulsa February 3

Women's Basketball vs. Kanas February 6

> Gospel Fest February 9



This view is from approximately 3rd Street into the courtyard of the South residential building (the future home of the Science and Health LLC). Windows are in place; caststone is complete around windows and building accents, bricking is complete; permanent power is activated, and building dry-in has been completed. In this photo, the land-scape/hardscape contractor has begun excavation in the courtyard for the sunken garden feature.

This view is from the South residence hall across to what will be 3rd Street to the Dining Commons. In the foreground is caststone still be installed on some of Dining Commons and on most of North residential building.



This view of the courtyard of the North residential building (the future home of Engineering-Computer Science Residential College) is from the corner of 3rd and Bagby—future location of the East Village Heritage Tree. In the left corner of the courtyard, the wooden wall section will be the glass and stone entry to the North lobby.

The first floor of the South residential building, looking toward the lobby, begins to take significant shape with sheetrocking, door frames, HVAC ductwork, and other mechanical systems.



This is the lobby of the South residential building from approximately the location of the hall office service desk on the east side of the lobby. On the right, the wooden wall section (similar to the North above) will be the glass and stone entry to the South lobby. In the back of this photo is one of two staircases that go up either side of the lobby to the mezzanine between the men's and women's sides of 2nd floor.

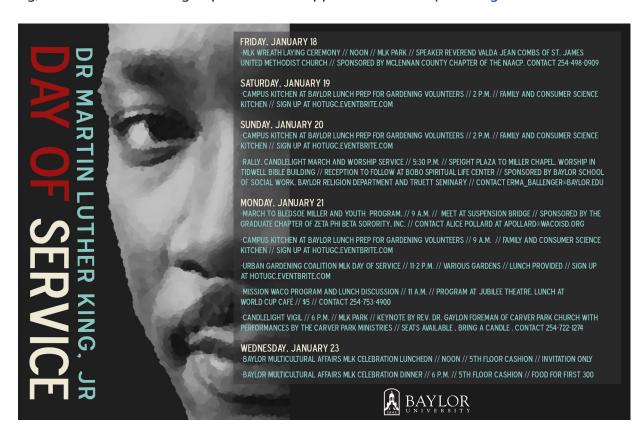
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MLK Day of Service

The Campus Kitchen Project at Baylor is partnering with the Urban Gardening Coalition once again this MLK Day of Service. Faculty, staff, and students can sign up to make and pack box lunches with Campus Kitchens for volunteers at six different gardens around the Waco community. More interested in getting your hands dirty? Volunteer with UGC at the gardens for an afternoon of gardening activities and reflecting on the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Learn more and sign up for all these opportunities at https://hotugc.eventbrite.com/



Service to the Profession of Student Affairs

Jennifer Massey was elected to the Board of Directors for Student Affairs Assessment Leaders, a national organization developing and promoting best practices in assessment. Jennifer will serve as External Relations Chair starting January 2013. In this role, Jennifer will lead the External Relations Committee in the development, implementation, and evaluation of strategies to advance SAAL as an organization which may include membership outreach, marketing, and collaborations and partnership with other associations (e.g., AALHE, AIR, ACPA, and NASPA) or organizations (e.g., Campus Labs or EBI).





Health Services

The Administrative Area staff of the Health Center decided this year for their Christmas Party on December 18 that they would each bring \$10 worth of food to donate to Caritas instead of a \$10 gift to exchange with each other as they had done in past years. The group of eight staff members all contributed and took their canned goods to Caritas and put their items on the scales and were pleasantly surprised that what they had brought weighed in at just a little over a 1,000 pounds. Everyone agreed that it felt good to give! Administrative Staff: Shannon Brewer, Barbara Carbajal, Patricia Fuentes, Teresa Reid, Sue Sowder, Linda Washington, Betty Fornelius, and Brenda Ferguson.

Linking Assessment and Strategic Planning

In the spirit of the recent Dean and Department Head Retreat, I would like to discuss strategic planning and assessment. Many people see strategic planning and assessment as separate entities; but in reality, the two are intimately connected. Without a strategic plan, it is nearly impossible to conduct intentional assessment; and without intentional assessment, movement through a strategic plan cannot be monitored. Let me use an extended metaphor to demonstrate this relationship.

My family, which includes my husband, my 15-year-old daughter, my 11-year-old son, and myself, love to take extended family vacations. We are all very different, but we share one common mission: our vacations should draw our family closer together. This corresponds nicely to the mission of Student Life, which is enriching the Baylor experience through life-changing programs and services resulting in an integrated education known for leadership, service, Christian faith, and the total development of students. In the case of my family, all activities or programs during the vacation should serve to provide links between our different strengths and interests. For the division, all departments and programs should be linked through the development of leadership, service, Christian faith, and student development.

Our mission provides a unifying theme to our activities, programs and departments; but we need some way to connect the two parts. We do this through goals. For the division, we have community, citizenship, calling and wholeness as goals because each one of these words contributes to the overall mission. For my family, the goals for vacation would all be related to drawing my family closer together, so this may include goals like inclusive activities, a responsive travel plan, and opportunities for individual development. As in the Division of Student Life, each part of my family's vacation should contribute to meeting these goals.

The link between the goals and the actual programs or activities can be found in the learning outcomes. For instance, within the division, we have a number of different departments and within these departments, we run multiple programs. Each program should link to the mission statement of the division through our divisional goals, but we need an intermediate step before we can jump from a program to a divisional goal. That is, the learning outcome for the individual departments. For example, Campus Recreation may have the following hypothetical learning





Division of Student Life

Linking Assessment and Strategic Planning (continued)

outcome: Relate physical exercise to personal development. This learning outcome is supported through programs like outdoor adventure and intramural sports, because by participating in these programs, students will be able to relate physical exercise to their personal development. The learning outcome then contributes to the divisional goal of calling because it links the programs to a student's development of self and identity.

Let's return to my vacation metaphor to clarify this link. One of the goals for the Sulak family vacation is participating in inclusive activities. This may sound easy, but with two extroverts and two introverts, we struggle to meet this goal! To keep this metaphor consistent with our Student Life organization, we will create two departments within the division of the Sulak Family. One department will be extroverts and the other introverts. One goal of the division of the Sulak Family was to provide inclusive activities, so the department of introverts may plan a program of visiting a museum of ancient history, while the department of extroverts may plan a day at the beach. All family members will participate in both activities, but each activity will link to the divisional goal through a learning outcome. For the museum, the learning outcome will be, "As a result of participating in the museum trip, everyone will develop a shared vocabulary for discussing ancient history." While at the museum, each individual participant may be absorbed in reading signs, wandering the halls, or exploring the exhibits. The vocabulary gained can be used in dinnertime discussions of the museum trip, so it is a catalyst for drawing the family, or division, closer together.

Now that we have planned links between programs, departments and the larger division, we need to assess the strengths of the planned links. Our strategic planning encompassed creating these links, but assessment will help us understand if our links are valid. For example, while on my family vacation, we decided to assess our inclusive activities by a dinnertime focus group. All four of the family members would attend and give feedback on the museum trip. If my daughter were silent during the focus group, then it would be prudent to ask whether she felt this was an inclusive activity. If she gave answers indicating that the museum trip was not inclusive because it did not pertain to her interest and made her feel isolated, then we would need to close the loop by providing some kind of intervention. In this case, it might be best to brainstorm some new inclusive activities or programs, have a family vote and reconvene for a follow-up focus group after completing the new activity.

Assessment and strategic planning within the division works virtually the same way. Let us return to the Campus Recreation learning outcome of relating physical exercise to personal development. In our hypothetical example, Outdoor Adventure programming was designed to meet this learning outcome. So to assess the effectiveness of the program, we could ask participants to tell us how physical exercise relates to their personal development. We could have the participants write an online journal or blog and then code these entries for different aspects of physical activity and personal development. Once we coded the entries, we might find that individuals developed a greater appreciation of self-discipline, respect for self, and caring for the physical body, but did not establish a link between self-development and future recreational





Linking Assessment and Strategic Planning (continued)

aspirations while participating in this program. To close the loop, we would use this information to improve the Outdoor Adventure program by infusing a reflection on how the physical aspects of the program may help participants plan for future recreational experiences after graduation from college.

I hope these examples help you see the connection between strategic planning and assessment. If the strategic plan is the direction or destination of the vacation, then each individual program or activity represents stops along the roadmap. Assessment allows you to evaluate the effectiveness of each of these stops at meeting the overall goal of the vacation! For the Division of Student Life, strategic planning tells us how we want to transform students' lives; and assessment evaluates the success of these transformations.

It's Just a Cycle...

Assessment is a cycle, and repeated iterations of that cycle should help reduce the distance between our divisional mission and the learning outcomes we have established. This is another example of the relationship between strategic planning and assessment. The strategic plan looks far into the future and tells the division who it should be. Assessment allows us to look in the mirror and see who we are. Iterations of the assessment cycle allow us to bring these two visions into alignment.

The graphic below illustrates the assessment cycle. We start at the top by creating learning outcome that are linked to our departmental goals. The learning outcomes tell us what students participating in our departmental programming should know, do, or value as a result of the experience. To determine whether the experience changed or transformed our participants, we need to measure the learning outcomes. If the feedback from this measurement reveals a mismatch between what we wanted to occur and what actually occurred, then we need to revise our programming. At this point, we may add, subtract, or amend the existing learning outcomes; and the cycle begins again.

Revise program to inprove learning outcomes

Compare outcomes

Sompare outcomes

with potended outcomes



New Student Experience Instructor Recruitment

The Office of the Dean for Student Learning Engagement is pleased to announce that recruitment for fall 2013 New Student Experience instructors is nearly complete. Recruitment began in October. Since then over 100 instructors have signed up to teach a New Student Experience section (i.e., U/BU 1000). Despite this excellent response rate, additional Baylor University staff and faculty are needed to fill the remaining slots prior to January 24th. Faculty and staff who are interested in teaching a section of a New Student Experience course are encouraged to contact Jennifer Massey (J_Massey@baylor.edu) as soon as possible.

Taking the Next Step toward Restoration of Older Residence Halls

In early February, the University will seek final funding permission from the Board of Regents on the first stage of a planned multi-year refurbishing project that should touch each of our traditional residence halls within the next eight to ten years. KSQ Architects (Tulsa/Fort Worth) began working with the University over a year ago on feasibility studies and was selected last summer as the design architect for the first building. Design work has been in progress since last summer on South Russell Hall. Six contractors were interviewed in mid December, and the Linbeck Group of Houston was selected. Meetings with KSQ, Linbeck, and Baylor began immediately in order to be ready for the closing of South Russell at the end of this spring semester. Kickoff of restorations will begin in June and continue through the 2013-14 school year, will plans to re-open in the fall of 2014. Over this coming summer, appropriate steps will be taken to isolate South from North Russell so that North Russell will remain in use next year. Over the summer of 2014, South Russell restoration will be completed while a year-long restoration begins on North Russell.

Among changes that are planned for the restored South Russell are

- Renovation of the little-used basement into major lounge, recreation, fitness, and classroom space to be available to all residential students.
- Excavation to create a new amphitheater and residential student entrance to the basement from the courtyard side of the building.
- Re-design and expansion of the lobby, including a new staircase connecting the lobby with the basement, a new community kitchen, a reflection room, a new front desk, two staff/faculty offices, and a conference room.
- Creation of new hall director and resident chaplain apartments, and addition of a faculty-in-residence position and apartment.
- Re-design of the front building entry to include appropriate means of accessibility.
- Re-design of interiors of student rooms to include all new movable furniture.
- Increased numbers and updated styles of community/study space with natural lighting and designs that showcase studying.
- Complete re-design of community bath areas.
- New or updated mechanical systems throughout.



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Division of Student Life

SLC Renovations

While the SLC was closed over the holiday, here are some of the projects undertaken:

- Painted ductwork in natatorium
- Began demolition of climbing rock
- Refinished hardwood flooring in gym, racquetball courts, and aerobics room
- Refurbished inside 148 lockers
- Painted walls, columns, railings, and baseboards
- · Leveled sand volleyball courts
- Scrubbed racquetball walls top to bottom
- Extracted carpeting throughout SLC
- Detail cleaning in fitness center, restrooms, and locker rooms
- Replaced diaphragms, seats, and vacuum breakers in toilets
- Repainted showers
- Installed new shower heads
- Replaced several broken ceramic tiles in locker rooms
- · Replaced lights over pool, racquetball courts, gym, and fitness center





Repainting the duct work (before and after)



Refinishing the hardwood floor (in the gym, aerobics room, and raquetball courts)





Leveling the sand volleyball courts

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Refurbishing the locker interiors (80 men, 68 women)





Student Life Teams for 2012-13

Classic Work Teams:

Communication – will review the division's existing means of communication, assess the various methods in which Student Life departments communicate with students, and determine effective and innovative ways of delivering messages to current Baylor students. A part of the charge of this team will be to evaluate, monitor, and enhance the Student Life website.

Primary goal for 2012-13: To provide recommendations for developing innovative means to communicate with students

Team Members for 2012-13: Dave Kennedy (facilitator), Lara Conrad, Heather Gilliam, Suellen Husak, Austin Kertesz, Joe Oliver, and Sharon Stern

Strengths and Calling – will continue to develop a culture of strengths that encourages the discovery, development, and application of strengths as central for lifetime learning and the pursuit of excellence. To help all members of the Baylor community discover and express their sense of calling, this work team builds a strengths perspective for understanding identity, recognizing influences, and shaping local and global impact.

Primary goal for 2012-13: To develop recommendations to further incorporate strengths into student development and student learning

Team Members for 2012-13: Martha Lou Scott (facilitator), Dave Kennedy, Chris Kirk, Jennie Massey, Tripp Purks, and Holly Smith

<u>Division Implementation Teams:</u> (teams to implement ideas we now have)

Assessment – will oversee assessment for the division. This includes coordinating assessment activities of the division, providing professional development on assessment, overseeing the assessment review processes, maintaining divisional assessment records, ensuring the division is in compliance with institutional requirements, ensuring the staff members are adhering to best practices in assessment, disseminating findings to campus constituents, and supporting and encouraging professional and scholarly.

Primary goal for 2012-13: To implement an assessment software program, Baseline, and train staff on its use

Team Members for 2012-13: Jennie Massey (facilitator), Lanese Aggrey, Kaity Briscoe, Linda Cates, Jeff Doyle, Terri Garrett, Lori Genous, Dana Lee Haines, Beth Ingram, Jana Marak, Elizabeth Palacios, Erin Payseur, Ryan Richardson, Martha Lou Scott, Tracey Sulak, and Chris Terry

Staff Development – will plan and execute the staff development program for the division. The team will be responsible for engaging staff in challenging programs that will educate, enrich, and inspire us.

Team Members for 2012-13: Jeff Doyle (facilitator), Astrid Beltran, Kimo Cummings, Grant DeYong, Jimmie Farmer, Holly Joyner, Ronda Kruse, Monica Lima, Bethany McCraw, Joshua B. McPhatter, Melissa Morie, Kathy Reich, Scott Shepherd, Jared Slack, and Jeff Walter





Division of Student Life

Student Life Teams for 2012-13 (continued)

Advisory Teams:

Alcohol – working directly with Wellness, this team will develop programs and initiatives to reduce dramatically underage drinking, binge drinking, and driving under the influence of alcohol, as well as educate all students about the serious negative effects of alcohol.

Team Members for 2012-13: Lori Genous (facilitator), Don Arterburn, Tierra Barber, Melanie Illich, Scott Risinger, Keane Tarbell, and Christa Winkler

Body IQ – working directly with Campus Recreation, Counseling Services, and Wellness, this team will develop programs and initiatives to reduce the instances of eating disorders among the student population at Baylor.

Team Members for 2012-13: Emma Wood (facilitator), Randall Boldt, Van Davis, Lori Genous, Crystal Kitten, Regina Mastin, Sandra Northern, and Tracey Sulak

Sexual Assault – working directly with Wellness, this team will develop/enhance resources for students who have been the victim of a sexual assault. This team will explore the implementation of a multidisciplinary, institutional Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) which will serve as a comprehensive, sensitive, coordinated system of intervention and care for sexual assault victims. The team will also provide students with health education on prevention strategies.

Team Members for 2012-13: Lori Genous (facilitator), Don Arterburn, Polly Flippin, Anna Freeto, Kelley Kimple, Kandy Knowles, Lisa MacMaster, Monique Marsh, Kristina Miller, David Murdock, Lisa Murphy, Scott Risinger, DeLorean Wilkinson-McGee, Christa Winkler, and Cheryl Wooten

Presentations

Recently, Matt Kwiatkowski and Shelton Lewis presented the session, "Leading, Learning, Living-Residential Communities" with colleagues from the University of Connecticut at the Leadership Educators Institute at The Ohio State University. The session was a comparative look at the LEAD LLC and a similar program at UCONN. The presentation was helpful for attendees with and without experience with living-learning programs to learn about the curricular and co-curricular offerings, assessment tools, challenges, and future directions of these distinct programs.

Cub Corner

Sofia Grace Sutton was born October 14, 2012 at Ft. Eglin AFB, Florida. She weighed 6 lbs. 8 oz. and was 19 inches long. Sofia is the daughter of Charles and Jennifer Sutton and little sister to Emilie and Olivia. She is the granddaughter of Brenda Ferguson, Health Services staff member. After a year and a half of training her dad is now stationed at Ft. Hood. She was three weeks old when she took her first plane ride – and says she knows she wasn't born in Texas but she got here as fast as she could!







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Division of Student Life

Welcome Weekend

New Student Programs kicked off the spring semester with a successful Welcome Weekend this January. Welcome Weekend is all about building relationships with fellow classmates, connecting with faculty and staff, becoming more acclimated to campus life, and celebrating the spirit of Baylor. Over 60 incoming freshmen, transfers, and international students had the opportunity to explore downtown Waco, learn more about the traditions at Baylor, and watch the Baylor men's basketball team claim a victory over TCU. We are excited for these new students to call Baylor home!













Division of Student Life

Publications

Massey, J, Sulak, T. and Sriram, R. (2013) "Influences of Theory and Practice in the Development of Servant Leadership in Students" *Journal of Leadership Education* Vol. 10:1

Godlewska, A., Massey, J., Adjei, J. and Moore, J. (2013) "The unsustainable nature of ignorance: measuring knowledge to effect social change. First Results of an On-line Survey of Aboriginal Knowledge in an Ontario University" *The Canadian Journal of Native Studies* Vol.30:1

New Staff



Carlos Colón now serves as the Coordinator for Worship Initiatives for Spiritual Life. Carlos is a composer and cultural promoter, specializing in music that is both academically serious and ecclesiastically valuable. His recent projects lie at the intersection of theology, the arts, and social renewal. He holds a B.M. from Belmont University and a M.M. from Baylor University. His music has been performed recently in festivals in the United States and abroad: in Carnegie Hall, Venezuela National Radio, the United Nations, and the Festival de Música Contemporánea of El Salvador. Colón's international heritage and personal experience of civil war inform his compositions' calls to justice, peace, and beauty.



Jorge L. Chavez now serves as a **Licensed Vocational Nurse** for **Health Services**. He has worked as a nurse for 18 years, mostly in correctional managed care for the Texas Juvenile Justice Department. His daughter is currently a freshman at Baylor, and his son is in 6th in Lorena ISD. Jorge also has a miniature schnauzer named Rocky. Jorge loves riding his motorcycle when it is warmer outside. He is very excited to now be a part of the Baylor family.



Jasmine Wilson now serves as the Assistant Director for Resident Learning for Campus Living and Learning. Jasmine previously served as a residence hall director at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where she worked for the past five years. She has chaired departmental committees including professional staff recruitment, graduate staff recruitment. And she was a key member of their programming and assessment committee. She is also enrolled in the higher education administration doctoral program at Tennessee. She completed her M.Ed. in Administrative Leadership at Whitworth University (WA), where she also earned a B.A. in History.

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