

A&SPIRE YEAR THREE (2016-2017)

Theme 3

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



AOD 1 – Improving Campus Event Coordination/Promotion

Year 3 Accomplishment

- We reviewed the functions listed in the job description for the Events Coordinator position and prioritized them. Improving coordination and publicity of events through an enhanced calendar system was identified as the most important function. After considering the resources likely to be available to fund this as a full-time position, the Dean, in conjunction with the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies, began to explore the possibility of folding this function into the job description of the existing Arts & Sciences Development Coordinator position.

Year 4 Goal

- By August 2017, revise the job description of the current Development Coordinator to include the job function of creating an enhanced calendar that will improve coordination and publicity of A&S-wide events.

AOD 2 – Improve Waco/Central Texas Community Outreach

Year 3 Accomplishment

- The Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies-Student Success Management began meeting regularly with representatives from across the university to discuss the current state of service learning and informed engagement throughout Baylor. It became evident that this was a less cumbersome and more effective way to determine opportunities for service learning and community engagement than working through a committee comprised of Arts & Sciences faculty only, and that redundancies could be avoided this way. Therefore, it became no longer necessary for the Council for Informed Engagement to continue to meet.
 - This university-wide, ad hoc committee is comprised of the Vice President for Strategic Initiatives, Collaboration and Leadership Development; the Senior Director for Informed Engagement and Continuous Improvement; the Director for Community Engagement and Initiatives; and the Director for the Civic Education and Community Service Program. The purpose of these meetings is to determine the current state of service learning and informed engagement at Baylor, which will be useful in deciding the direction of A&S for these types of initiatives.

Year 4 Goal

- By May 2018, the Dean's Office will complete an inventory of what courses Arts & Sciences currently offers that contain service learning and/or informed engagement opportunities. Any future recommendations will need to be considered in light of changes made to the core curriculum.