

Goal Three
Executive Summary
Enhance Community Engagement
FY 2012

Introduction

The focus of this goal is to foster the engagement of students, faculty, and staff in the life of our communities and in pursuits improving their economic and social well-being. Following is a definition of community engagement developed by the community engagement planning committee in 2004:

Community engagement is the development of collaborative partnerships between education, business, social services, and government that contribute to the academic mission of the University and directly benefit the community. Community engagement at Indiana State University includes activities in the teaching, research, and service endeavors of faculty, students, and staff. Examples of community engagement activities include:

- Technical assistance and applied research to help increase understanding of a local or regional problem or test solutions for that problem.
- Lectures, seminars, and other public forum that provide a neutral place to explore community issues.
- Extension of learning beyond the University walls and into the community.
- Enriching the cultural life of the community.
- Service, including internships and service-learning, that directly benefits the public.
- Economic development initiatives, including technology transfer and support for small businesses.
- Involvement of community members in planning and decision making activities of the University.

Implementation teams associated with this initiative are focused on creating new or improving current structures, programs, or activities that support faculty, staff, and student community engagement activities. Academic programs and administrative units involved in community engagement will continue to have responsibility for determining the communities with which they engage and types of engagement activities that are appropriate for their student, faculty, staff, and external partners.

Initiatives

Goal three includes three initiatives. The first two initiatives, create a coordinated community engagement program and expand distance education offerings, include several components or sub-initiatives and expected outcomes. The third initiative, enhance the visibility of ISU in Indianapolis, is more focused. The following section provides an update of the actions of each of the initiative teams.

Initiative 1 – Create a Coordinated Community Engagement Program, Chair: Nancy Rogers, Associate Vice President for Community Engagement and Experiential Learning

Accomplishments for this reporting period include:

- Eight faculty have received funding to give community engagement/experiential learning presentations at state, regional, or national conferences.
- Tracy Powers was appointed Executive Director of the Career Center. A new organization chart for the Career Center has been approved. Several searches are underway to complete staffing in the Career Center.
- For FY11, 60 support staff claimed community service leave for a total of 383.88 hours and 15 monthly employees claimed 108 hours for a total of 75 employees using 491.88 hours. From 7/1/11 - 2/29/12, 61 support staff claimed 376.71 community service leave hours and 55 monthly employees claimed 332.08 for a total of 116 employees and 708.79 hours.
- Sycamore Business Builders has been launched during the spring term. This program connects student consultants with small businesses and non-profits in the area.
- Eight grants have been awarded for faculty to create student engagement opportunities in the Ryves neighborhood.
- Seven students are participating in the pilot program for the Service Learning Scholars program.
- Three student organizations have received mini-grants to complete community service projects.

Initiative 2 – Expand Distance Education, Chair: Marcia Miller, Associate Dean, College of Nursing, Health, and Human Services

Accomplishments for this reporting period include:

- The Adult Career Education degree program currently has 57 majors and has graduated 4 students. Retention from Spring to Fall was 88%.
- A small team of faculty are working with Dean Brauchle on the development of a new degree completion program.
- Twenty-eight faculty have participated in a training program focused on teaching foundational studies in an on-line environment. Thirty-two faculty are enrolled in the spring workshop.
- Transformation of the Masters in Sport Management to an on-line program is on-going. Eleven courses have been completed and 2 additional courses will be completed this semester.

Initiative 3 – Enhance the Visibility of ISU in Indianapolis, Chair: Tara Singer, Assistant Vice President, Communications and Marketing

- In 2012, Indiana State University sponsored the Special Olympics Indiana awards banquet for the 2nd time.
- We continued our sponsorship of Black Expo at an increased level and participated as a sponsor at Fiesta Indianapolis.
- Funding was provided for a print advertisement for the Plainfield MBA program.