Libraries and Student Success: A Campus Collaboration with High Impact Educational Practices

Library Assessment Conference
August 2014
Seattle, Washington
What are High-Impact Practices?

- First-Year Seminars
- Common Intellectual Experiences
- Learning Communities
- Writing Intensive Courses
- Collaborative Assignments
- Undergraduate Research
- Diversity/Global Learning
- Service Learning
- Internships
- Capstone Courses
Results of high-impact practices

• Students:
  • Devote time and effort to purposeful tasks
  • Interact with faculty and peers about substantive matters
  • Increases likelihood of diverse experiences
  • Receive frequent feedback
  • Apply learning to different settings
  • Have life changing experiences

• George D. Kuh High Impact Educational Practices. AAC&U 2008
Essential Learning Outcomes

• Knowledge of human culture and the physical and natural world
• Intellectual and practical skills
• Personal and social responsibility
• Integrative learning

• George H. Kuh College Learning for the New Global Century. AAC&U. 2007
Let’s focus on Learning Communities

• Two or more linked courses as a group
• Work closely with peers and professors
• Encourage integration of learning and involvement with “big questions.”
Learning communities at UNCG

- Learning Communities
- Living Learning Communities
- Residential Colleges

- Mosaic
- UNCG Teach
- Make a Difference
- Global Village
- Exploratory Studies
- Pre-Health
- First-Year Experience
Learning communities and the UNCG Strategic Plan

• **Strategic Plan goal 3.3:** Implement first-year learning communities for all first-time UNCG undergraduate students to encourage integration of learning across courses. (Learning Communities)

  - **Fall 2011:** 18-20% of first-year class (>500 students)
  - **Fall 2012:** 30% of first-year class (900 students)
  - **Fall 2013:** goal of 50% (1300 students)
Are they working?

Retention rates

• UNCG students: 75.7%
• UNCG LC students: 86.5%

Student success

• 2.74 average Learning Community GPA
• 2.64 average UNCG GPA
University Libraries and LC’s

• Student Affairs Connection program began in 2007
• Liaisons to Learning Communities, Student Services, Student Organizations
• Residential Colleges
• Learning Communities
• Greek Societies
• Dean of Students
• Student Government
Outcomes for liaisons

• Increase contact and embed further with communities
• Gather data
• Develop an annual report
Collaboration with LCs

- Information literacy
- Assignment development
- Satellite reference
- Co-curricular activities
Let’s tell the campus!

• Wrote extensive report to provide evidence of Libraries’ support for all high impact practices
• Described each practice at UNCG
• Provided statistics for 2012-13 to show level of support
• Narrative and bullet points mapped activities
• Distributed to Provost, Deans, Student Affairs
Activities with Learning Communities

• 41 information literacy sessions
• Embedded librarian in Ashby Residential College
  • 2-4 office hours/week
  • Research consultations
• Attending final presentations or posters

• Assignment design
• LibGuides
• Research consultations
• “Lab sessions”
• Workshops for instructors
Libraries impact on student retention and success

- High impact practices contribute to student retention and success
- Libraries collaborate and align with high impact practices
- Libraries contribute to retention and success
Recommendations

Learn about high impact practices on your campus

Align with these practices

Map statistics, document evidence, share
More information

• Full report: http://tinyurl.com/p96fq3m

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Questions?