Annual Report for the Division of Student Affairs

Oregon State University

Susie Brubaker-Cole, Vice Provost for Student Affairs

August 31, 2016
Introduction

The Division of Student Affairs at Oregon State University seeks to foster, aid and enhance the success of students.

During the 2015-16 academic year student affairs focused primarily on creating a new division-wide strategic plan to guide our work through 2020. In May 2015, the vice provost launched an intensive strategic planning process to capitalize on the diversity of new leadership perspectives and align with the University’s SP 3.0 and the bold student success goals announced by President Ray in February. Drawing up on extensive input from students, campus partners and student affairs members, the new student affairs strategic plan was completed in May 2016, and implementation has begun.

Two additional major efforts this year position student affairs well for future contributions to student success. First, with the OSU Foundation, we launched the first-ever student affairs fundraising effort at OSU, and we raised 1.8 million dollars specifically for student affairs programs in 2015-2016. The vice provost also participated in planning and coordination of the broader Student Success Initiative fundraising effort.

Second, we implemented a division-wide student participation tracking system as the core of our data analytics infrastructure. This system will allow us to: 1) understand the impact of our programs on student success; 2) drive divisional programming and resource decisions with real-time data; and 3) ensure the co-curricular components of students’ experiences can be integrated into broader university analyses of the contributing factors in student success. In this first year of implementation, we determined that we served approximately 22,000 students (at least once) during the academic year across all of our services in student affairs.

The following provides a summary of particularly noteworthy accomplishments during the past year as we prepare to launch into a new era of excellence and innovation in support of student success, guided by both the university’s and our own strategic plan. What is lacking in this report that we are committed to providing in future years, thanks to our new data tracking and analytics systems, is an accounting of the ongoing, core service and programs that student affairs delivers each year in support of student success.

**Goal 1: Provide a transformative educational experience for all learners.**

**Programs that enhance the learning environment to raise and equalize student success**

**Primary examples of Student Affairs’ contributions to the enhancement of learning environments for all learners include:**
• The Career Development Center (CDC) has endeavored to make career development services and resources more widely available to the OSU community, which in turn assists students in successfully pursuing experiential education and career opportunities. Virtual Career Fairs and networking opportunities offered via the Brazen platform allow participation by students from Ecampus and Cascades, as well as employers and alumni outside the local OSU area. The CDC also recorded the popular “How to Apply for Federal Jobs/Internships” workshop for students to reference at any time on the web and via the Ecampus website. Academic advisors have been provided with professional development opportunities and tangible tools to help standardize the delivery of career development advice across campus, which ensures that all students have access to the same types of resources for career success.

• Childcare and Family Resources (CFR) works to raise and equalize student success by making higher education more accessible and affordable for students with children. Free campus child care, child care subsidy funds and subsidized campus child care centers support students with children in their efforts to persist and graduate as well as their desire to participate to the highest extent possible in the greater campus life and community.

• Diversity and Cultural Engagement (DCE) partners with the Meyer program to provide academic mentoring and tutoring within the Cultural Resource Centers. In addition, all DCE student employees have their grades checked each term and those who fall below a 2.50 GPA are counseled by their supervisor one-on-one.

• 85.9% of campus residents swiped into recreation facilities in Fall 2015, compared to 84.5% the previous Fall. In addition, participation by first-year students in intramural activity was up 3% percent from 2014-15.

• University Housing and Dining (UHDS) awarded Retention Grants to students for the first time this year, providing $30,000 to first year students who had account balances too high that was keeping them from registering for the following term. These students were able to stay at OSU all year as result of these grants. These grants are funded from a portion of our share of the revenue resulting from the pouring rights contract with Pepsi.

• The Memorial Union was ranked second highest in the nation for quality of the union environment and programs measured against the national CAS standards.

Make high impact learning a hallmark of undergraduate education (resulting in responsible citizenship and global competitiveness)
Diversity and Cultural Engagement (DCE) hosted a year-long speaker series that included seven events with featured guest speakers on topics related to diversity, experiences of minoritized populations and inclusiveness in education.

DCE administered the PROMISE internship program for underrepresented students. 28 internships were completed through the PROMISE program summer 2015. For the first time, interns created ePortfolios to tell the story of their internship experience with various mentors and sites at OSU and in the region.

The Career Development Center implemented the liaison model for delivery of career development services, so that students can receive more targeted and intentional information/skills/strategies within their chosen college(s). Career Development is now consistently represented in the Colleges of Agricultural Sciences, CEOAS, Forestry, Public Health & Human Sciences, and Science. Selected services are also offered in the Colleges of Engineering, Pharmacy and Veterinary Medicine. A CDC presence in the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Education will be implemented during 2016-17.

Student Affairs units integrate student learning outcomes into student employment opportunities to align with the Learning Goals for Graduates. Units measure learning in student employment in various ways to determine student outcomes. The Division employs about 50% of the student employees who work on campus.

For fall 2015, 32 sections of U-Engage were offered, taught by 11 teaching faculty and 25 professional faculty, enrolling 621 students across all sections. UEngage employs several national best practices in freshman seminars.

Quarterly Community-Based Learning (CBL) luncheons began in Fall 2015 and attendance averaged 68 participants for FY16 led primarily by the Center for Civic Engagement. The CBL luncheons seek to advance student learning through community engagement and OSU reciprocal partnerships with communities. Four alternative spring break service-learning trips were offered in FY16, engaging 39 students in over 1,700 educational and service hours.


**Enhance our comprehensive Healthy Campus Initiative**

Multiple departments in the Division of Student Affairs contribute to the enhancement of our comprehensive Healthy Campus Initiative. Some examples that have particularly large or deep reach are:
Childcare and Family Resources provides to the OSU community: Beaver Family Connections; Elder Care Connections; National Work and Family Month programming; Bring Your Kids to Campus Day; Joy Drive - students only; Expressing Milk in the Workplace Policy; Campus wide lactation room standards through Campus P & D Admin Guidelines.

Recreational Sports provides on-campus exercise programs and memberships for faculty and staff.

ASOSU continues to promote the three branded services of the organization: ASOSU SafeRide, ASOSU Office of Advocacy, and ASOSU Student Legal Services. These services are a part of the student leaders’ efforts to contribute to the health and well-being of the students and campus.

Center for Fraternity and Sorority Life (CFSL) staff work in close partnership with Corvallis Police Department & the Corvallis Fire Department as well as on-campus colleagues in Student Health Services, Corvallis Community Relations, Student Conduct & Community Standards, and Equal Opportunity & Access to address town/gown conflicts between our Greek students and Corvallis residents. The CFSL implemented ‘The Breakfast Club’ community clean-up program to help assist with livability concerns and students’ engagement with neighbors.

Corvallis Community Relations’ (CCR) Preferred Renters curriculum and good neighbor messaging aim to encourage behavior that is responsible and respectful of community values. The online and in-person workshops are designed to provide students with the tools to be informed tenants and responsible neighbors. Workshops are aimed at improving livability by fostering a commitment to community that upholds Corvallis’ ranking as one of the nation’s top college towns and best places to live.

DCE provides seven Cultural Resource Centers which serve as a space where students can feel at home, build community, engage with others and study. The fully equipped kitchen allows low income students the opportunity to prepare meals in the Center and helps them to identify healthier and low cost options to eating. To further assist with affordable access to food, DCE hosts community food box onsite at all Cultural Centers. Finally, DCE offers many physical activity programs in each of our Cultural Resource Center spaces that allow for greater access to health and well-being.

DCE partnered with UHDS and the Dean of Student Life to develop OSU’s first Ramadan Engagement Program. The entire UHDS staff was trained to understand Ramadan. Student leaders were invited to offer in-house training to
residence hall students/staff. Initially designed as a pilot for on campus only residents, the program now offers culturally appropriate meals for all Muslim students who want to participate. Specific spaces have been reserved to offer dedicated space for morning and night prayers so students can congregate safely.

- At the outset of Spring Term 2016, many students on campus became ill with norovirus, a highly contagious gastrointestinal illness. Student Health Services took a leadership role in collaboration with Benton County Health Department and several OSU Departments, including University Housing and Dining, Facilities Services, University Relations and Marketing, and Academic Affairs, to identify and isolate cases and to prevent spread of the outbreak through communication, sanitation, and education. Without these collaborative efforts, the outbreak could have spanned a much longer period of time, resulting in many more infected students, faculty and staff.

- The Student Health Services (SHS) Laboratory Manager found ways to reduce the prices of the most commonly ordered STI tests, making them more accessible for students. In addition, the laboratory implemented a student self-ordered STI test option. Further, the wellness staff launched the “Get Yourself Tested” campaign. As a result of these efforts, there was a 36% increase in STI tests conducted in AY 15-16.

- The Recovery Support Services through SHS currently serves 18 students and is steadily growing. Students gather for bi-weekly meetings. End-of-year survey results indicate that students are happy with the support they get from their peers in recovery.

- The Office of the Dean of Student Life oversaw the Student Care Network: New Student Care cases (higher level cases) totaled 219 and Threat Assessment Team (TAT) handled 49 new cases, up from 166 and 38 cases respectively in AY 15. Student Assistance cases (lower level cases) totaled 641, up from 420 cases in AY 15.

- Student Health Services piloted a research-based bystander training program for the prevention of sexual assault. Called “Beavers Give a Damn,” the program will continue and expand for academic year 2016-17.

- Counseling and Psychological Services piloted an innovative emotional skills workshop to aid students facing emotional difficulty but not necessarily in need of individual therapy. In addition, an innovative approach to technology-facilitated therapies was piloted. Both will continue for 2016-17.
Overseen by SHS, AlcoholEDU is required for all first-year students, and Haven is required for all new students (including Ecampus, graduate, transfer and first-year). Both provide proactive education around alcohol use and sexual assault on campus, in an effort to reduce these events across campus.

Goal 2: Demonstrating leadership in research, scholarship and creativity while enhancing preeminence in the three signature areas of distinction. Increase the quality, capacity and impact of graduate programs

Graduate Teaching in the Division of Student Affairs
• 8 graduate courses were taught by Student Affairs professionals in 2015-2016. (1)

Graduate Advising in the Division of Student Affairs
• 10 graduate students were advised by Student Affairs professionals in 2015-2016. (2)

Graduate Committee work in the Division of Student Affairs
• 32 Student Affairs professionals served graduate committees in 2015-2016. (2)

Goal 3: Strengthen impact and reach throughout Oregon and beyond.

Position OSU’s outreach and engagement programs as learning laboratories that promote high-impact learning and effectively utilize university research

• Counseling and Psychological Services and Linus Pauling Middle School partnered to engage middle school leaders in trainings, activities, and conversations surrounding mental health. Specifically, gatekeeper trainings were offered with positive result for students who experienced the trainings.

Grow rural and urban regional centers to advance social progress

• 1,166 OSU community members engaged with the Community and Civic Engagement Office in 2015-2016 with 94 service projects planned, outreach events put on, or presentations given by the CCE for a total of 3,222.25 hours spent by OSU community members engaging in civic engagement activity.

• Our institutional service estimates are: 14,712 service hours from 727 student participants in community service.
Increase study abroad and strategic international research partnerships

- SHS expanded its partnership with OSU GO to address the pre- and post-travel medical needs of students studying abroad. Students traveling in OSU-sponsored programs are encouraged by departments to access the SHS Travel Clinic services. The SARC also presented information on sexual assault dynamics to raise awareness for students studying abroad. Information was also provided about how to receive support and assistance if an assault occurs. Information about reporting to the university was also provided.

- DCE houses the Transatlantic student symposium for graduate students—an international partnership with Humboldt Universitat zu Berlin, University of Warsaw and OSU that engages graduate students from multiple disciplines in an academic research endeavor based on a research theme.

Engage alumni and other external partners to advance our goals

- The new capability of being able to host virtual career fairs and networking events via the Brazen software has opened up an important opportunity for the CDC to partner with employers and alumni who would otherwise be unable to attend in-person events on campus. Awareness of and participation in these “virtual” activities is growing, and is also expanding opportunities for students to connect with employers and alumni.

- The Corvallis Community Relations Director co-chairs the Community Relations Advisory Group (CRAG). The CRAG engages community and university stakeholders in the recommendation of strategies to improve and sustain livability; establish measures of livability and monitor the progress of work undertaken to implement neighborhood livability policies. The CRAG provides a space for community members to share concerns and provide feedback, while providing the university a platform to share and discuss strategies for mitigating livability issues.

- DCE and the Pride Center are engaged in intentionally building an LGBTQ+ alumni database. This past year a graduate intern spent two terms conducting research in the Pride Center and in the Queer Archives to create a list of alumni who have been involved in the Pride Center of other LGBTQ+ groups or initiatives. Our goal is to reach out to this list of more than 120 alumni and begin working more closely with them during the 2016-2017 academic years.

- DCE is a central member of the new Community and Diversity alignment organized under Angelo Gomez; as a result DCE played a major role in creating a successful representation of OSU in communities of color in the Portland area.
through participation in large high profile events such as “Good in the Hood”.

- DCE has a staff member assigned to working with the OSU Alumni Association and as such relationships with OSU alumni of color are being rekindled, this past year highlights included an evening event to meet with OSU Alumni about changes in diversity units on campus.

- SARC within SHS has an MOU with CARDV, the local non-profit rape and domestic violence organization, to provide 24-hours/7-days a week of emergency response, accompaniment to medical appointments and/or law enforcement proceedings, creating a culture of collaboration among campus and community partners.

- SARC, along with the Violence Prevention team, have a relationship with nationally-known advocate, Brenda Tracy, leveraging her local and national energy to promote and improve OSU’s survivor-centered advocacy program.

In addition to these goals, the Strategic Plan also establishes a commitment to three essential features for OSU. The following section discusses key initiatives in Student Affairs that align and contribute to these commitments.

Stewardship of resources

- Enhancing resources through private philanthropy

  The vice provost engaged in over 50 donor visits during academic year 2015-16. Grants Received by Student Affairs units (11): $469,260.95 Donations Received by Student Affairs units (11): $805,794.38

Technology as a strategic asset

- Hardware for data collection for participation has been standardized across the division. This architecture has been linked into larger university efforts for data collection and connected to CORE, and uses the same system as the point of sale system for the university, Atrium. We continue to tie Student Affairs data systems to larger university efforts.

College-level metrics

The Division of Student Affairs has developed a set of division-wide metrics linked to our strategic plan. Next year’s annual report will include the results of the first year of these metrics.