RISE 2030 | Strategic Plan Task Planning

2.4 Scale Up High-Impact Practices to Enhance Engagement

Priority: Invest in Academic Innovation
Goal: Innovate and Enhance Instructional Methods

Strategic Action: *Scale up high-impact practices such as learning communities, undergraduate research, and project-based or externship curricula, and identify new active learning practices to pilot that will enhance teaching and learning and foster deeper engagement with students in the classroom and in the community.*

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STRATEGIC ACTION TASK PLAN

Phase 1: Conduct Research and Needs Assessment

1. Conduct an Institutional Inventory of Existing High-Impact Practices

   o *Identify current learning communities, undergraduate research opportunities, externships, and project-based courses.*

   o *Assess participation rates, student success outcomes, and resource utilization.*

2. Engage Community

   o *Conduct faculty surveys and focus groups to identify barriers and opportunities in implementing high-impact practices.*

   o *Identify champions who have successfully implemented active learning methodologies.*

   o *Conduct student and faculty focus groups and surveys to understand existing gaps.*

   o *Identify opportunities and support services that students and faculty feel are missing or need improvement.*

3. Benchmark Peer Institutions

   o *Research trends in effective active learning practices.*

   o *Perform peer benchmarking analysis to research successful models of learning communities, undergraduate research, and project-based curricula.*

4. Organize Key Research and Needs Assessment Findings

o *Organize key findings for teaching practices and student engagement opportunities based on market data and focus group feedback.*

Phase 2: Define Expansion Strategy & New Active Learning Opportunities

5. Identify Existing Engagement Opportunities for Expansion

   o *Determine existing programs and student engagement opportunities to expand (e.g., new learning communities based on student academic interests).*

   o *Identify opportunities to enhance student research projects with faculty mentors.*

   o *Assess if any low-participation engagement opportunities should be discontinued.*

6. Determine Opportunities for New Programs

   o *Utilize focus group feedback and market research to determine new program offerings.*

   o *Collaborate with externship partners to create new project-based learning and externship opportunities.*

7. Develop a Detailed Plan for Scaling & Implementation

   o *Define faculty, student, and institutional support needed to scale selected high-impact learning practices.*

   o *Develop a structured scaling plan that outlines key phases, funding needs, faculty training requirements, and anticipated student enrollment impacts.*

   o *Create pilot project plans that define timelines, roles, and responsibilities for teams implementing new active learning models.*

8. Align with Leadership on Strategy

   o *Present to leadership findings on which programs should be scaled up and where there are opportunities for new programs.*

   o *Discuss cost and implementation considerations.*

   o *Prioritize programs for implementation.*

Phase 3: Implement and Launch Programs

9. Launch New and Expanded Programs

   o *Conduct training for faculty in pilot programs.*

   o *Rollout new learning communities and research/externship opportunities.*

   o *Implement pilot programs for new active learning practices.*

o *Provide faculty with structured support for piloting new active learning models.*

10. Assess Feasibility for Scaling Pilots

o *Identify which pilot initiatives show promise for broader implementation.*

o *Adjust curriculum and faculty support based on early pilot data.*

Phase 4: Monitor and Scale Effective Practices

11. Track Participation and Engagement

o *Assess the impact of new and expanded programs on student engagement and learning outcomes.*

o *Analyze course evaluations for pilot programs to assess student satisfaction.*

12. Gather Feedback from Faculty and Students

o *Collect qualitative feedback through interviews with customers and individuals delivering services.*

o *Leverage any existing engagement mechanisms for collecting relevant feedback data.*

o *Identify gaps in active learning practices.*

13. Refine and Expand Programs

o *Modify course curriculum and student engagement opportunities based on feedback.*

o *Explore additional options for further expansion beyond pilot programs.*

o *Expand successful models college-wide.*

TEAM AND INVESTMENT

Action Teams should include individuals who bring the following perspectives and expertise:

- Select faculty members conducting undergraduate research and utilizing active learning methods.
- Provide consultation on existing externships and opportunities for new relationships.
- Provide consultation on existing and new student engagement opportunities.
- Share active learning best practices and assist with implementation in the curriculum.

Investment

- **Medium investment** for WCC providing:
    o Updated curriculum

- o New student engagement program
- o Training for faculty
- o Faculty stipends for revisions