

## **Engaged Learning and Collaboration Strategic Plan Initiatives**

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Irina Khusid

Doreen Tobin

Van Reidhead

(in consultation with Gerard Rozea)

This document lays out the skeleton of three strategic initiatives that the Task Force on EL&C agreed should be funded and launched with between now and the 2012-13 academic year.

### **1. Annual Themed Student Research Conference:**

- a. Description: "Going Broke" has been selected through a survey of students as the theme for the first annual ESU Conference. The Conference is for students and by students in collaboration with faculty. The primary goal is to hook freshman students and sophomores in the excitement and wonders of research. It calls for a plan to engage freshman and sophomores with juniors, seniors, and graduate students to conduct research and creative work culminating in conference presentations. Outcomes are expected in improved freshman and sophomore retention and persistence to graduation, and in enhanced critical analysis, problem solving, and communication skills.
- b. Management Group, Center, Units:
  - i. Office of the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Studies
  - ii. CETL: Committee on Excellence in Teaching and Learning (in collaboration with the Service Learning group)
    1. Conference planning committee of students, faculty, staff, and administrators
- c. Proposed Budget: \$25,000
- d. Timeline: Annual starting September-October, 2012.

### **2. Undergraduate Research Fellowships:**

- a. Description: Supports small grants for individual or team undergraduate student research, with a faculty sponsor(s). The primary goal of the program is to engage undergraduate students with faculty and other students in original research and creative exploration culminating in one or more conference presentations. The program is to partner with the annual ESU Conference, with award recipients required to present or lead discussions on their projects at the annual conference. Outcomes are expected in improved retention and time to graduation, critical analysis and problem solving skills, and in greater opportunities for advanced study and career options.
- b. Management Group, Center, Units:
  - i. Office of the Vice Provost (Research Portfolio)
  - ii. Senate Research Committee

- iii. Office of Research (Patricia Campbell)
- c. Proposed Budget: \$20,000 (partnership for matching funds will be sought with Student Government)
- d. Timeline: Spring 2012, first release

**3. Curriculum-based Living and Learning Communities in Residence Halls:**

- a. Description: Organizes communities of learners and faculty in for credit, highly engaged learning within curricular programs or the GE curriculum. The primary goal is to accelerate and enhance student learning. Outcomes are expected in improved retention and time to graduation, team problem solving and communication skills, and advanced study and career choice options.
- b. Management Group, Center, Units:
  - i. Office of the Director of Residence Life in Collaboration with the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Studies and Academic Deans
- c. Proposed Budget: Amount TBD
  - i. Funding source, auxiliary Residence Life funds.
  - ii. Other matches possible
- d. Timeline:
  - i. Spring 2012, plan
  - ii. AY 2012-13, organize
  - iii. Fall 2013, implement