Access

SPC Access Workgroup

Issues: Recruitment

Collaboration with various agencies, departments within the university is essential to engender a holistic process and approach to ensure students' academic success and life-long learning. “Enrollment management”. This as an integrated systems approach that focuses on student enrollment from the time of their inquiry through graduation and post-graduation, essentially a student's success cannot be facilitated by just one aspect of the University only with all departments, units, offices, and services working collaboratively and cohesively together can we provide the student with the needed tools to stimulate completion and life-long learning.

An effective enrollment management system can alter and improved an institution's frame of reference about itself and its prospective students, community members and business partners

Recruitment – Action points

Students' preparedness for higher education; we need to look at how students are being prepared to take up places in higher education.

Create transfer paths from Tribal Colleges and Two Year Colleges/courses to MSU. In the process of facilitating transfer articulation agreements with MSU – Establishing long term relationships with partner institutes.

There are pockets of good practice, these pockets of good practice should be looked at; and “good practice” where applicable, developed in other areas of the university.

Issues: Diversity – Action Points

Attract and recruit a culturally and ethnically diverse faculty

Target Native American and other minorities for faculty and student recruitment

Enable HS prep for success – teacher training/retraining

Reaching out – Action Points

Need to reach all 56 counties/both rural & urban communities (+ beyond)

Package/brand MSU outreach initiatives

Extension, extended university, Museum of Rockies, Local Government Center, etc)

North Montana development - as the oil industry grows work with them developing services, knowledge economy.

Increase access shouldn’t be limited to ‘underserved’

State of Montana sees MSU as ‘their’ university.
Night Courses
Break the 9-5 physical mold! Night & online classes.
MSU & GCP should collaborate on night courses
Twilight class have been tried in the past but were not successful due to limited population uptake.
We need to make sure that this is not simply moving the day time population in to the evening.
Demographics and economic landscape are changing.

Distance Learning – outreach.
We create access through on-site programs.
Distance learning – more Antithetical to university
MSU could share resources with other universities in MT- to develop online classes – onsite programs
Reach non-traditional students – ‘new’ student
New ways of teaching/learning
Professional development – beyond traditional degrees

Student expectations
Access is defined by those involved – what is important to them and maybe not considered by us?
Offer scholarships to non-traditional students – this is a priority in the up and coming capital campaign.
More need based scholarships (+funding model to support it.)
Online access to free education - can generate use + interest.

Globalization
As a process and a phenomenon, globalization has to be actively implemented, reproduced, serviced and financed and it relies for its functioning on several overlapping structures and relations from the local, to the national, to the global. In other words, globalization is not a predetermined force that pushes and molds local contexts into uniform shapes.

The question raised by this is how is globalization changing the fundamental conditions of an educational system premised on fitting into a community, a community characterized by proximity and familiarity?

This would suggest that our educational aims should focus on the encouragement, appreciation and tolerance of individual and cultural diversity. The complex areas of equality and inclusivity are high on the agenda in every HE institution. The widening participation agenda and increased significant international recruitment have created diverse student populations and institutions recognize that they are simply not catering to their needs. Added to this, legislation requires us to examine these areas and ensure we are offering equity of experience across our curriculum.
To compete in the current world of recruitment of students and more importantly retention we must develop new approaches which can bring inclusivity into the mainstream and aid not only the minority, but the majority of our students. Action - Develop a grass roots approach to this issue by using the experiences of students, faculty and staff to underpin the principles of inclusivity and develop approaches that explore the experiences of disabled students and ways of helping domestic students interact with overseas students.

In this way it is about enabling faculty to focus on individual learning needs and entitlements rather than on student backgrounds and circumstances.

This approach enables confidence in faculty in meeting not only the requirements of current legislation, but also in helping to offer all of our students the best possible university experience.

**M - Learning**

Create a plan for implementing and developing mobile learning on campus.

Mobile devices are increasingly popular on college campuses and are becoming more functional as access to high bandwidth grows. Using portable mobile learning devices like tablets (iPads, Amazon Fire, Android, etc.) and smartphones (iPhones, Androids, etc.), students are capable of accessing educational content, activities, and services from anywhere and at any time.

**Goals**

Metric: # of students participating in study/service/work abroad (include NA reservations)

Triple # of strategic partnerships w/ international universities by 2017

25% of MSU graduates have a study abroad experience by 2018

Double # of international students by 2015