EDUCATION INITIATIVE

UAAC

April 8, 2014
Education Initiative Overview

• Launched in Fall 2012
• Complement to UC San Diego’s Research Initiatives
• Charged by the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
• Fully integrated into the Campus Strategic Plan
Our metrics define how we measure progress and success for our strategic plan goals

**Goals**

- Delivering an Educational and Overall Experience that develops students who are capable of solving problems, leading, and innovating in a diverse and interconnected world
- Cultivating a diverse and inclusive university community that encourages respectful open dialogue, and challenges itself to take bold actions that will ensure learning is accessible and affordable for all
- Nurturing and supporting a collaborative and interdisciplinary research culture that advances the frontiers of knowledge, shapes new fields, and disseminates discoveries that transform lives
- Driving economic development, shared prosperity, and social and cultural enrichment regionally and globally
- Creating an agile, sustainable, and supportive infrastructure by ensuring a dedication to service, people, and financial stewardship

**Strategies**

- Provide coordinated and seamless access to comprehensive academic and career advising across all colleges, departments, and units
- Rethink curriculum and pedagogy to improve retention and graduation rates and increase student and faculty engagement
- Strengthen the connection between academic and co-curricular experiences
- Evolve our university culture by requiring that our university dialogue deliver actionable initiatives and measurable outcomes that enhance equity, diversity and inclusion
- Expand existing programs and implement new approaches that result in accessible and affordable learning for all
- Identify emerging and future trends and strategic thrusts to increase our impact and enrich society
- Attract, retain, and grow our top-quality and diverse faculty body
- Grow a high-quality, cost-effective and diverse graduate program
- Evolve structures and processes to identify trends for investment, and foster innovation, risk-taking, and collaboration across the university and beyond
- Strengthen our community engagement and public service and increase awareness of UC San Diego’s impact
- Provide access to high-quality patient care
- Enhance financial sustainability through new revenue and efficient use of existing revenue
- Cultivate a people- and service-oriented culture that unlocks our potential

How will we know if we are accomplishing these goals?
Education Initiative Goals

• Adapt the current best global thinking about educational strategies
• Further the intellectual, academic, cognitive, and social development of our undergraduate and graduate students
• Give faculty access to the latest research on learning and teaching to incorporate into their courses
Education Initiative Organization

• Leadership Team (11)
• Working Group (31)
• 2012-13 Committees (open to all, 15-30 each):
  • Technology-Enhanced Education
  • Co-Curricular and Out-of-Class Activities
  • Engagement Inside the Classroom
  • Real-World Preparedness/Transferable Skills/Career Competencies
2013-14 Committees (open to all, 40-50 each):

- **Engaged Teaching**, co-chaired by Gabriele Wienhausen and Jeff Elman
- **Engaged Learning**, co-chaired by Amy Binder and Alan Houston
  - Experiential Learning Portal
  - First-Year Transition Program
  - Student Electronic Record System
Engaged Teaching Goals

• Support faculty in learning about new technologies and pedagogical methods
• Support academic and student affairs units in incorporating real-world skills and cross-cultural competencies into courses and co-curricular activities for both graduate and undergraduate students
• Keep up to date with and communicate about the ongoing campus discussions and experiments regarding technology-enhanced teaching and learning
• Find ways to coordinate campus infrastructures that synergistically serve students and faculty
Engaged Learning Goals

Experiential Learning Portal:

• Provide students one web-based location where they can find co-curricular experiential opportunities
• Map experiential opportunities to real-world skills
• Build on the current Undergraduate Research Portal urp.ucsd.edu
• Cross-collaboration: ORA, CSC, Student Life, AIP, and many others
Engaged Learning Goals (cont.)

First-Year Transition Program:

• Introduce incoming freshmen and transfer students to UC San Diego’s unique educational environment and available resources
• Build on existing departmental and divisional programs
• Support Colleges and Departments
• Cross collaboration: Colleges, Departments, and Student Life
Engaged Learning Goals (cont.)

**Student Electronic Record System (SERS):**

- Implement an integrated three-tier SERS which includes an enhanced electronic transcript (E2T), a co-curricular record (CCR), and an electronic portfolio (EP)
- Support the development, delivery, and assessment of programs that address general real-world skills and can be tracked by the SERS
- Cross collaboration: Academic and Student Affairs

UC San Diego
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Education Initiative - Broadening Graduate Training

- Recent national reports on the need to broaden the skill base of graduate students, to prepare them for the full range of career opportunities available to them

- Moving beyond cloned advisors
  - Insufficient openings in research universities; does not best serve national needs

- Non-academic positions can represent satisfying and important pathways that make good use of the skills acquired during doctoral training

- How to better prepare students for these pathways?
Education Initiative Moving Forward

• Create an infrastructure that could:
  • be housed in a real or virtual Teaching & Learning Commons
  • serve as a centralized resource for pedagogy and technology (for faculty), and writing and other academic support (for students)

• Develop a Student Record System that records co-curricular activities and incorporates real-world skills

• Expand the Experiential Learning Portal

• Create a first-year transition program for freshmen and transfer students
Education Initiative Activities and Events

Upcoming events:
• Kimberly Tanner, San Francisco State University, Faculty in Biology and Director of the Science Education Partnership and Assessment Laboratory (SEPAL) – May 7-8, 2014
• Panel of UC San Diego faculty who have taught MOOCs – May 30, 2014

Newsletter:
• Receive updates and information about:
  • events organized by the Education Initiative
  • other related campus events

Sign-up at: http://academicaffairs.ucsd.edu/ug-ed/education-initiative.html
Education Initiative

Q & A