

# EDUCATION INITIATIVE

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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

# Education Initiative Organization (cont.)

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](http://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

# 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