

Governors State University

Student Affairs and Enrollment Management: Reaching Vision 2020

Focus Area: Auxiliary Services & University Housing

Leader(s): Betsy Joseph

Implementation Year: 2015-2016

Goal 1: Establish a model residential program defined by a supportive, caring and inclusive living and learning community with high levels of engagement by resident students both on campus and in the community.

Objective 1:	Collaborate with Student Life to provide opportunities for students to be involved both on and off-campus. Strategy #1: Work with student life to promote opportunities for resident students involvement.
Action Items	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fall & Spring service learning opportunities 2. Sports participation & attendance 3. Establish monthly meetings between Student Life and Housing
Desired Outcomes and Achievements (Identify results expected)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 20% unique resident participation for the year in service learning opportunity 2. resident participation in volleyball tournament (fall) and basketball tournament (spring); Strong Resident attendance at home opener athletic events (volleyball; men and women's basketball) 3. Monthly planning meetings starting November
Achieved Outcomes & Results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the fall semester we had 4 residents and a staff member go to Restoration Ministries with Civic Engagement. PP supported service learning opportunities by hosting Homeless to Harvard (7 residents), LifeSource Blood Drive (~15 residents), and promoted Oxfam's Hunger Banquet. In the spring semester Prairie Place formed a Relay for Life team and had 5 residents as team members for the PP team, but many residents formed their own teams with different organizations. 2. Prairie Place showed strong attendance at the men and women's basketball season openers, as well as the season opener for volleyball. Over 20 residents walked to these games together and sat together. Prairie Place had a team for the dodgeball tournament and took first place in the fall. Hall Council planned March Madness intramurals for the building. The most successful event was the 5v5 basketball tournament 3. ASUH had 2 successful collaborations. SL had started Movie Night Fridays and had successfully put on one in the month of February. UH and SL collaborated on the Leadership Awards in April.
Analysis Results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff did not reach 20% unique participation for service learning events; instead staff had about 3.9% unique participation for these events. Working earlier will help in the future in securing more participants. 2. These opening events and intramurals were some of the highlights of the year for Prairie Place. Residents commented that they enjoyed these events and staff should continue to plan them. 3. This started late and needs to develop earlier in the year if it is to be effective.

Goal: Establish a model residential program defined by a supportive, caring and inclusive living and learning community with high levels of engagement by resident students both on campus and in the community.

Objective 2:	Create a comprehensive programming model that provides meaningful programming and dialogue opportunities for residents to develop relationships, learn about self and the world around them. Strategy # 1: Implement Programming Model
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Action Items	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Job Placement & Career Development Programs 2. Academic and Scholarly Connections Programs 3. Global Citizenship, Civic Engagement, and Sustainability Programs 4. Undergraduate/Graduate Crossroads Programs 5. Alcohol and Other Drug Use Awareness/Effects Programs 6. Rapport, Respect, and Community Building 7. Social Justice and Addressing Community Issues 8. Wellness: Mental, Physical, Spiritual Programs 9. Intercultural and Diversity Programs 10. New Campus Connections Programs
Desired Outcomes and Achievements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Residents of Prairie Place will be able to explore the various aspects of career-planning and navigation. Programs will provide resources to students regardless of their year or anticipated graduation date. Staff will collaborate with the Career Development Center to put on programs that may include, but are not limited to the following: career exploration, resume building, mock interviews, interview etiquette, internship exploration, job/career search, alumni networking, and so on. Residents will be able to take away valuable information whether they are a first year student unsure of what major they are interested in, a transfer student interested in obtaining a summer internship, or a graduating senior/graduate student in the midst of a job search. 2. Residents of Prairie Place will be able to engage with faculty from various disciplines to further their understanding of content knowledge, explore critical perspectives from diverse lenses, or build rapport to better understand the value in seeking out assistance throughout the semester. FIRs will be imperative in this initiative as they are often seen by residents as the only link to the faculty. These programs will be designed to break down the perceived intimidation of approaching faculty and cultivate new relationships between faculty (not only the FIRs) and students. Residents will be able to bring their expertise, interest and passion to connect with a faculty to help them actualize their college dreams and post-college aspirations. 3. Residents of Prairie Place will be able to articulate the three learning tenets of the university and be able to think critically about how these tenets impact themselves, those around them and the global community at large. Residents will be able to engage meaningfully in dialogue and activities that will produce deeper, critical thinking skills. Residents will be able to see how each of these different dimensions impacts their lives directly and indirectly. Residents will be prompted to engage in action and to give back to their community 4. One of the unique challenges of Prairie Place is the diverse range of students served. Being able to tap into these unique experiences could prove prudent to developing the undergraduates in the pursuit of their degrees, while at the same time offering time to developing the mentoring skills of the graduate level students. These programs will be a mixture of social and educational/mentoring and will be vital in rapport building amongst residents of Prairie Place. Residents who engage in these experiences will develop lifelong friendships and natural peer mentorships. 5. Residents will understand the impacts that alcohol and other drugs commonly used on university campuses have on the individual, their relationships, and the community around them. Residents will be able to articulate the different effects that these substances have on them, as well as reflect on the difficult reality of navigating peer pressure and being able to make difficult decisions. Staff will collaborate with the Department of Public Safety in order to put on effective and accurate programs. 6. Residents will be able to discover commonalities with their direct neighbors and the hall community. These programs are intended to bring a sense of ownership and responsibility to each of the residents to understand their part in creating and maintaining a safe, respectful community where everyone feels included and responsible to the community. Residents will contribute to community activities and help facilitate what social events the hall would like to see each semester. Surveys will be distributed at the beginning of each semester to garner interest and possible activity ideas. 7. Residents living in a residential environment often encounter issues stemming from difference that they have not been forced to navigate before. This is an ideal time for transformation and

	<p>development. Residents will be able to identify the issues they are seeing being pervasive in their community. Residents will be able to navigate the concern and come to peaceful resolutions where the community is satisfied. RAs and Hall Staff will play integral roles in identifying issues and ensuring that policies remain enforced. Residents will also be able to identify larger issues concerning social justice and find ways to take meaningful action in their everyday life.</p> <p>8. Residents will be able to understand the excess stress and demand that college places on a student and how to adequately cope and respond to these stressors. Residents will take way positive, healthy ways to deal with these stressors and be introduced to resources that will help them navigate those difficult times. Staff will partner and collaborate with the Counseling Center, Recreation and Fitness Center, and Interfaith services to put on meaningful programs designed to develop residents with their competence level in wellness.</p> <p>9. Residents will gain an insight to the different identities they hold and how they develop throughout college. Residents will understand the impact college has on identity development and reflect on what that means to themselves, those around them, and the global community. RA staff will collaborate with the Director of Intercultural Affairs to put on meaningful programs. Residents will explore and learn about identities that they do not hold and what impact that has on a community. Residents will gain further insight on dealing with difference and difficult conversations. Elements of intersectionality will also be discussed and residents will learn how intersectionality impacts their holistic development.</p> <p>10. Residents will be introduced to a variety of activities sponsored by different offices around campus, including but not limited to: Career Center, Student Life and the Dean of Students Office, Student Conduct, First Year Programming and Orientation, Center for Performing Arts and Recreation & Fitness Center. RA Staff will be responsible for facilitating a community-building activity before attending a new campus connection event. Staff will be intentional in picking diverse activities to be inclusive of the different needs of the residents in the building. Intentional follow-up to see what new connections happened will occur through informal conversations from staff to the residents.</p>
<p>Achieved Outcomes and Results</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Job Placement & Career Development Programs <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. A Pizza Mind about the Future b. Cocoa, Cram and your Career c. Vision Board Party d. Job and Career Fair 2. Academic and Scholarly Connections Programs <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chat with Financial Aid b. Cocoa and Cram c. Weekly RA Tutoring Study Tables d. ARC Tutoring in Prairie Place e. Academic Recovery Weekly Tables f. Decompression Sessions g. Study Skills with Jessica and Patrick h. Save My Semester 3. Global Citizenship, Civic Engagement, and Sustainability Programs <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Semester at Sea b. Real Talks with Real Foods c. South Suburban Family Shelter on Domestic Violence d. Chalking for Change e. #SaveOurEducation – Higher Ed Matters Rally f. On Being Cuban g. On Being Muslim-American 4. Undergraduate/Graduate Crossroads Programs <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Let’s Talk About Sex b. Superbowl Party c. March Madness Viewing Party

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. Renter’s Insurance 5. Alcohol and Other Drug Use Awareness/Effects Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Club Conflicted: Alcohol Perceptions b. Turn Up Responsibly c. Spring Break It Up 6. Rapport, Respect, and Community Building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Wings and Waffles with Willie b. Not Birthday Party c. Halloween Scary Movie Marathon d. Finally, Flag Football e. Pumpkin Carving and Decorating Contest f. Dinner on the Prairie g. Passive Community Collections – Monthly Series h. March Madness Week of Sports i. First Friday Movie Night j. Kickback with Kickball k. Cubs v. Sox Viewing Party l. Be My Valentine 7. Social Justice and Addressing Community Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Rallying for Higher Ed b. Respond 2 Violence: It’s On Us c. SAAM Kick-off Event d. Consent is Sexy e. The Invisible War Viewing Party f. The Clothesline Project g. Ask Me About My Shoes h. Spring Break Hangout Circle 8. Wellness: Mental, Physical, Spiritual Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Mental Health Game Night b. Talk About Sex c. Mindful Meditation d. Weekly Meditation Sessions 9. Intercultural and Diversity Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Let’s Talk About Sex b. BSA Meetings 10. New Campus Connections Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chat with the President b. Relay for Life c. March Madness: 5v5 Basketball Tournament d. Ice Cream Social on Getting Resources
<p>Analysis of Results</p>	<p>The first year of implementing a comprehensive programming model gave staff the structure needed to understand the pedagogy behind programming and how it is more than just a social event or gathering. There were a total of 56 programs held in Prairie Place or in conjunction with Prairie Place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The most successful programs shared the themes of Rapport, Respect, & Community Building; Social Justice & Addressing Community; and Civic Engagement, Global Citizenship & Sustainability. • RAs had a harder time developing programs for Intercultural & Diversity Programs, as well as Job Placement & Career Development programs • ASUH will continue to evaluate the programming model to be inclusive of how to program in the some of the areas staff identified as being harder to gather interest in the building

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Objective 3:	Collaborate with Student Affairs and the University Library to incorporate the common reading text of “Start Something that Matters” into RA training and hall programming Strategy. Strategy #1: Implement FIRs’ leadership plan.
Action Items	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement FIRs/Housing collaboration 2. Promote participation to other OBOU’s events 3. Look for opportunities for PP to be host site for OBOU events
Desired Outcomes and Achievements (Identify results expected)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Integrate FIRs into housing planning team - hold coffee & conversation around OBOU’s theme. 2. Housing staff will actively market and support campus wide programming related to OBOU. 3. Promote coffee and conversation programming.
Achieved Outcomes & Results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The FIR Semester plan was followed pretty well until October when ASUH lost 2 of the 3 FIRs. 2. Staff sent an e-mail to collaborate and supported the OBOU November Summit 3. No OBOU events (beyond Coffee and Convo) were held at Prairie Place
Analysis of Results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The plan had to be revisited since we lost a majority of the FIRs within the first couple months of the semester 2. Students were not engaged with the OBOU choice this year which made it difficult to attract students to events and not many events were held 3. This goal was not met due to a lack of appropriate programming that would have been a good fit to host at Prairie Place.

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Objective 4:	Collaborate with the Academic Resource Center to provide academic assistance opportunities in Prairie Place for residents. Strategy # 1: Provide academic resources at Prairie Place
Action Items	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RA Study tables 2. Group tutoring
Desired Outcomes and Achievements (Identify results expected)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At least one RA study table in Prairie Place Sun-Thurs Math and Writing tutoring – each weekly 2 hours in Prairie Place. Actively market schedule for tutoring in Prairie Place and on Campus.
Achieved Outcomes & Results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RAs consistently held study tables throughout the semester and coordinated with ARC tutoring support. These were helpful, especially once the Academic Recovery Program (ARP) started in Spring semester. Residents utilized these services more in the spring than fall.
Analysis of Results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Spring GPAs overall were better than fall and students who remained on campus for spring were more academically-focused since students were dismissed after fall for GPAs under 1.0.

Objective 4:	Collaborate with the Academic Resource Center to provide academic assistance opportunities in Prairie Place for residents. Strategy #2: Retention & GPAs of residents
Action Items	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assign mentee list to FIRs 2. FIRs establish regular meetings with mentees 3. Mid semester check in with FIRs
Desired Outcomes and Achievements (Identify results expected)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FIRs will develop relationships early with new FY students and be able to help them access resources. 2. Students see FIRs as being resource/helper. 3. FIRs will make contact with 90% of students who have been identified as at risk

Achieved Outcomes & Results	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mentees were assigned and were meeting with their FIR consistently until October2. Regularly scheduled meetings happened with 1 of our FIRs. For Spring, we added a second GA to focus on academic intervention and support students on probation to make up for loss of 2 FIRs.3. FIRs and Academic Support Team were in contact with 100% of students who were identified as at risk
Analysis of Results	The FIR program was going smoothly at first, but many changes had to be made due to personal issues with some staff members. The changes that were made were beneficial to those who completed the academic recovery and back on track programs. FIRs (and academic support) were very helpful to students who were engaged in the programs and their GPAs reflect those efforts.