SUSTAINING EXCELLENCE



Strategic plan June 2017 update Here's how UWL is 'Sustaining Excellence'

Much has been accomplished with UWL's strategic plan, "Sustaining Excellence," since work commenced at the beginning of spring semester.

"We've completed a number of tasks in each of the four strategic areas and progress continues in all of them," says Professor Enilda Delgado, Special Assistant to the Provost-Strategic Planning.

In the pillar of "Investing in our People," a survey on ideas to help staff feel more valued has been completed. One development from the survey results was a discussion in Joint Planning and Budget on the reinstatement of educational assistance to UWL employees that will continue in the Fall.

A community perception survey reveals a 98 percent favorable view of the university's educational quality. Also, analysis of community service of nearly 600 faculty and staff show they've contributed more than 43,600 hours in the past year — the equivalent of more than 20 full-time employees.

"We've been able to collect valuable information that will help us as we continue to complete the plan and work to sustain the university's excellence," says Delgado.

Below is a summary of accomplishments in the first four months of the plan.

Increasing community

engagement



Establish Community Engagement Council (CEC) with a direct report to the Chancellor's Cabinet.



Establish systematic assessment of community perceptions of UWL's engagement with the community – conduct community survey. [See Summary Report PDF]



Compile summary data on community service by UWL staff and faculty. [See Summary Report PDF]

Conduct focus group with faculty on best practices associated with current, course-based community engagement projects.

Achieving excellence through equity & diversity



Consider pros and cons of a standard campus-wide student evaluation of instruction (SEI) associated with inclusion and diversity. As of April, the Joint Multicultural Affairs Committee recommended to not pursue. However, JMAC may pilot it in a limited manner. Concerns focused on a lack of research on this topic and the use of SEI may have unintended consequences for instructors who teach topics associated with historical oppression.

Investing in our people



Conduct staff survey on "Other than compensation, what would make you feel more valued as an employee at UWL?" [See Summary Report PDF]

Identify funding for a 1 percent salary equity adjustment for eligible faculty and staff for Fiscal Year 2017-18. The Joint Planning and Budget Committee approved the university-funded compensation plan which will be effective on July 1.



Discussion and proposed funding for educational assistance for UWL employees at Joint Planning and Budget. Further discussion and consideration slated for fall JP&B.

Transformational education





Study high impact practices (HIPs) on campus. [See Summary Report PDF]



Develop a repository of all UWL-related retention programming to understand how, when and who is involved in retention efforts underway on campus. [See Summary Report PDF]



Develop programming unique to the needs of transfer students. Create an ad-hoc transfer taskforce with a connection to START to make recommendations for transfer registration/orientation/ transition and other transfer-related experiences. [See Website and Taskforce Report]



The University of Wisconsin-La Crosse aims to foster within each student the curiosity, creativity, and tenacity necessary to solve the regional, national, and international challenges of the 21st century.

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