Undergraduate Research Experiences Community of Practice

Introductory Session

1/25/2015

Attendees: see below.

**Collaboration Opportunities from Thing/Pair/Share Activity**

* From a course perspective, I was excited to learn about the poster help session in Agriculture and I can have my students present at the poster presentation
* Seems like there are opportunities across programs for social activities across programs so that students would benefit from other student perspectives
* Joint socialization and educational opportunities exist during both summer and academic year
* Training for mentors could be accomplished through shared modules
* Develop pathways through various programs, e.g. summer stay to post bac program
* Create databases of students that have participated in each of the programs so that students that have participated in short term projects can be targeted for longer term projects
* Large scale, pooled GRE prep program? Economies of scale for common topics, safety training, ethics, … maybe online modules that can be done pre-arrival.
* Collaborative research seminars and speakers
* Professional development in the graduate school – seminars – collaborate
* Summer calendar with activities and seminars that are open to others – joint marketing
* On-line community of practice with both calendar and best practice – also what’s going on in the colleges
* Central listing of programs
* Building community among the students – service learning programs, sophomore living/learning community
* Communication training – share activities
* \*\*Evaluation – share tools and results, best practice and instruments – strategic planning
* Social interaction among/between programs
* Mentorship training for graduate students to mentor undergraduates
* Award student badges for competencies so that they don’t need to redo the same thing for multiple programs.

**Enhancing value through collaboration – common challenges**

* Funding – sustaining beyond a grant
* Sustainability – faculty engagement – time commitment – compensation for summer
* Other opportunities – how do you compete with other messages – other programs, opportunities, internships, coops, study abroad
* Marketing
* Streamlining processes, e.g. work with many different programs, data,
* Accessing data and connecting to data – surveys that you need to purchase and you can’t get access to raw data – not sustainable or scalable – how do you do something in-house?
* Determining long term student outcomes – longitudinal tracking – how do you accomplish this?
* Determining what metrics you really want to use – what constitutes success?
* Stable funding
* Faculty buy in
* Balancing research and non-research activities – students are here to get a research experience but we have a lot of wrap around activities that are important, but cut into research time. Maybe we can streamline and move towards a more effective way to do these activities.
* Use summer research experiences as a way to better prepare URM students for the realities of graduate school at Purdue or other research university.
* Make better use of summer URE to sell Purdue graduate school – particularly for URM students.
* Find research projects that are a good match for students
  + Advisors
  + Mentors
  + Projects
  + Training of undergraduates
* Sustainability – what are opportunities, how can we help each other
* Creating a research and social communities among students and program administrators – create cohort feeling
* Consistency in mentoring of students – train faculty and graduate students
* Appropriate staffing/administrative support
* Logistics of running a summer program and finding projects (on-boarding faculty)

**How might a Community of Practice help address common or specific challenges?**

* Connect students and faculty across colleges and departments in a systematic way
* Facilitate sharing best practices
  + On-line community
  + Periodic face to face meetings
  + \*\*\*Working groups around themes, like GRE prep, sustainability, assessment
  + Invite outside speakers

**Next Steps**

* Centralized website
* Calendar
* STEMEdhub community
* Qualtrics survey – do determine interest groups
* Purdue Today article

Attendees:

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| Emily | Allen |
| Jacob | Askeroth |
| Ann | Bessenbacher |
| Willie | Burgess |
| Vetria | Byrd |
| Loran | Carleton Parker |
| Kauline | Cipriani |
| Kari | Clase |
| Jennifer | Dexter |
| Tanya | Faltens |
| Jim | Forney |
| Colleen | Gabauer |
| Mary Helen | Halsema |
| Harm | HogenEsch |
| Ned | Howell |
| Lisa | Kirkham |
| Vicki | Leavitt |
| Lindley | McCDavid |
| Susan | Mendrysa |
| Linda | Mason |
| Teegarden | Dorothy |
| Ward | Mark |