Office of Student Affairs
Fall 2010 – Spring 2011
Strategic Plan 2012 Update
February 22, 2011

Improve Student Retention

First Year Experience:
- Loyola’s First Year Experience program received national recognition from the National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Student in Transition as a model integrated university-wide first year program. Loyola’s program demonstrates how faculty and student affairs professionals team to provide students holistic with learning environments. The program was noted for the way course material comes to life with the infusion of cultural programs and guided reflection. This spring faculty and student affairs are jointly sponsoring talks and performances by voodoo experts, World War II scholars, Mardi Gras Indians, and African dancers.

Enhance the Athletic Program

Addition of athletic programs and increase in roster size:
- For the academic year 2010-2011, the number of athletic programs increased to 12 with the addition of men’s tennis. Also, the number of participating student athletes increased to over 125, a 40 percent increase since 2008. The increase is due to added programs and an intentional increase in roster sizes from existing programs. Projected growth is expected as more programs are added through 2015. Men’s tennis began its inaugural season in Spring 2011.

Champions of Character:
- Under this Student Affairs leadership program, during Fall 2010 over 78 student athletes and coaches participated in volunteer service projects with the following programs: Susan B. Komen Race for the Cure, Girl Scouts of America, Bridge House of New Orleans, and the Cystic Fibrosis Run. In Spring 2011, the annual Coaches vs. Cancer fundraiser took place in February; sports clinics for the Desire Street Ministries will begin in April. These projects are invaluable for continued education for the development of women and men for others.

iLIVE (Ignatius Loyola Institute for Values Education)

National speakers on leadership, films discussing current social issues, and Jesuit speakers sharing their personal journey were brought to students through the leadSTRONG program in Fall 2010. Over 800 students actively participated in programs throughout Wolfpack Welcome and the semester. Leadership initiatives continue to expand with the implementation of the Student Leader Initiative conference, service and leadership awards, leadership workshops, capstone experience, and advisor development.
Emerging Leaders:
- A six week leadership program designed for 20 students was implemented in Fall 2010. Emerging Leaders focused on discovering personal leadership style, clarifying values, problem solving, social justice, and translating leadership into action with participation in the Wolves on the Prowl Day of Service. The Emerging Leaders program continues to grow by adding additional small group sections as well as partnering with campus departments and student organizations to offer population-specific programs.

Commuter Programs:
- In order to focus retention for commuter students and to engage them in campus life, we partner with the Student Government Association to offer weekly PB&J lunches with guest chefs from across campus, monthly commuter newsletters focusing on commuter issues, commuter focus groups, and monthly commuter breakfasts. Commuter needs continue to be addressed through the development of a Commuter Student Association and furthering the services and resources for commuter students.

Student Involvement:
- Student involvement opportunities expanded this year to offer students multiple opportunities to get connected on campus. This included the increase of recognized student organizations to 84 (a 30 percent increase in student participation), sorority recruitment, offering of an outdoor adventure program to explore southeastern Louisiana, and student leadership positions such as internships and the Student Leader Initiative Planning Committee. We will focus on the continued expansion of student organizations and crafting programs where students can be actively engaged in planning, implementation, and evaluation. In 2011-2012 we will charter Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership honorary, to recognize students who succeed both academically and in leadership roles on campus.

Cardoner Program:
- The third class of Cardoners was selected in 2010, growing the number of Cardoners to 60. A strategic three phase plan of leadership activities including service, student internships, and participation in campus leadership programs was introduced to provide a developmental approach to these students' leadership education. The Cardoner Program will reach its goal of having four classes of Cardoner students in 2011-2012; Omicron Delta Kappa and a capstone experience as key features of the senior experience in Cardoner will be introduced.

Student Leader Initiative:
- The Student Leader Initiative (SLI) is a one-day leadership conference that brought together students from Loyola to develop practical leadership skills, learn about social issues affecting our local and global communities, and begin to make positive change on campus. This year's theme was "Today's Actors, Tomorrow's Change." which challenged students to leadSTRONG and to remember that the choices and actions they take today create the change they want to see tomorrow. SLI offered over 15 leadership workshops presented by faculty, staff, and students, leadership certificates of
completion, and lunch with a nationally recognized keynote speaker, Alison Donohue, who currently serves as the New York project manager for the Jesuit Collaborative’s Contemplative Leaders in Action Program.

**leadSTRONG Speaker Series:**
- During Spring 2011 Co-Curricular Programs continues to bring national leadership speakers to Loyola students. As part of Love Your Body Week, Stacy Nadeau, from the Dove campaign for Real Women with Real Curves, presented a program on embracing real beauty and promoting a positive self-image. In March, Dave Coleman, relationship expert, discussed the importance of building healthy relationships.

**Student Organization Leader Training:**
- In Spring 2011, student organization leaders participated in social host training to learn how to safely manage events with alcohol and techniques for bystander intervention.

**Black History Month:**
- The Black Student Union and Co-Curricular Programs collaborated to host 18 programs in February to celebrate Black History Month. Highlights included a traditional African dance workshop, Food for Thought programs with faculty members discussing topics such as the Harlem Renaissance, HBO Def Jam Poet Shihan, and a trip to the New Orleans African American Museum of Art.

**Additional Student Retention Initiatives**

**New Student Center /Residence Hall:**
- Fall 2010, the Schematic Designs for the New Student Center / Residence Hall and renovation of Cabra Hall were complete. Spring 2011, awaiting discussions post-cost estimation.

**sophoMORE Initiative:**
- Student Affairs sophoMORE Initiative continues this spring with a focus on leadership programs to encourage untapped sophomore leaders to take campus leadership roles. Social programming began in January with a Sophomore Soiree. In March, Student Affairs and Mission and Ministry will host vocational discernment workshops to assist students with making decisions about majors and careers. A sophomore night at a Loyola baseball game and a rise up to junior status picnic will close the semester. In mid-semester Loyola will obtain data from Noel Levits regarding our participation in a pilot study on the attitudes of second-year college students. The data from the pilot will be used to inform plans for the second year of the sophoMORE Initiative.

**StudentVoice benchmarking studies:**
- For the academic year 2010-2011, the Office of Student Affairs will engage in several benchmarking studies to more fully document and understand data related to student experiences and leadership best practices in the areas of Career Development, Mental Health and Counseling, Orientation and Residential Life. The Orientation benchmarking study was completed in Fall
2010 while the remainder of the studies will be conducted during the spring 2011 semester. In addition, the biennial CORE Alcohol and Drug Survey will be administered in April 2011 to over 600 Loyola students as part of a statewide initiative to increase knowledge about alcohol and drug use in the college population and to inform harm reduction practices on campus.

Learning Outcomes:
- The Student Affairs Assessment Committee convened during the Fall 2010 semester and met weekly to articulate five broad domains that best capture the holistic development of a successful student body. All departments in Student Affairs will use these domains during the spring 2011 semester to write precise learning outcomes for their programs and services. This will ultimately assist with assessment, student learning and event planning.

Sexual Assault Advocates:
- During Fall 2010, the legal and content development groundwork was laid for Loyola’s Sexual Assault Advocates program. In February 2011 the first training session for volunteers was held. Fifteen students, 15 staff, and 11 faculty members attended (41 total). Community partners from NOPD and the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner’s office trained participants about correct response to student victims. Topics covered during the seven hour session included the fundamentals of interpersonal violence, empathic communication, components of a forensic exam, and Loyola’s resources, policies, and procedures. Advocates are identified to students online, and by placards and buttons strategically placed on campus. Future Advocates programs will include additional training and brown bag lunch discussions.

Occupancy in residence:
- Occupancy in Loyola’s residence halls has increased by 27 percent since the introduction of the Sophomore Residency requirement in 2008. Continued growth is projected in campus housing as enrollment grows and as demand from upper-classmen continues to increase.

Residence hall renovations:
- Renovations were completed in all four residence halls that included new flooring, paint, front desks, and furniture.

Residence hall amenities:
- Beginning Fall 2011, all campus residents will have free laundry facilities located in each resident hall. The laundry room in Biever Hall will be completely renovated, including the addition of a handicap-accessible ramp.

Family Weekend:
- Parent participation at Family Weekend in 2010 increased 23 percent compared to 2009. Parents are increasingly critical to Loyola’s success, and we will continue to grow the Family Weekend program in 2011 as a cornerstone event in each student’s transition to life at Loyola.
Dining options:
  - Renovated the old convenience store space in Carrollton Hall and opened La Divina in August of 2010.

Rent-a-Text:
  - In Fall 2010, implemented the Rent-a-Text program through the University Bookstore.