Armstrong Atlantic State University  
Division of Student Affairs

Mission Statement

The Division of Student Affairs dedicates its staff and resources to sustaining a collaborative and intentional learning-centered environment. Student Affairs supports the quest for continuous personal improvement through co-curricular activities, events, programs and services. The emphasis is placed on the importance of discovery, leadership and success at Armstrong Atlantic State University and beyond. (2007)

The Division of Student Affairs believes that supporting the academic mission of the University is paramount. Everything we do is aimed at enhancing the learning environment and developing students to their fullest potential. Through our programs and services, the student experience is enhanced, learning and development occurs, and satisfaction increases.

2010-2011 Goals and Objectives

Contribute to the University’s learning environment by examining programs and their impact on student learning. Research has shown 80% of student learning occurs outside the classroom (R.J. Light, 2001). These strategies will be used to intentionally engage students outside the classroom.

A. As demonstrated by the number of teams, participants and participations by students in Recreation & Wellness intramural program, we will increase the number of intramural activities by an additional 10% and the number of participants by 10%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Teams</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Participations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09-10</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>1484</td>
<td>5748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08-09</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1101</td>
<td>4984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07-08</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>549</td>
<td>2304</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. As a result of the Flag Football Official training, student referees were able to correctly answer questions related to local and national Flag Football rules with 75% efficiency. A pre test, training and a post test were given to the students. For Fall 2010, professional staff will focus on prior areas of weakness and increase the score for passing and certification from 75% to 80%.

C. Three new group exercise classes will be offered Fall 2010-Modern Dance, Cardio Circuit, and Group Weight Training.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Group Exercise Usage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09-10</td>
<td>9,768 +66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08-09</td>
<td>5,890 +17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
D. Sport Club offerings will increase by 2 for Fall 2010-Lacrosse and Ultimate Frisbee. This is a result of interest in current club sport offerings and groups of students forming with support from Recreation and Wellness to start these sports.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Club Sport Description</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07-08</td>
<td>1 Club Sport</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08-09</td>
<td>3 Club Sports</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-10</td>
<td>4 Club Sports</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E. Outdoor Program will offer, for the first time, an Overnight Camping Trip. This new event is based on student request.

F. Recreation & Wellness will increase usage in the Student Recreation Center by 10% as a result of the new programs being offered this year in the facility. (June 1-May 31)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Usage</th>
<th>Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09-10</td>
<td>79,650</td>
<td>+20.67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08-09</td>
<td>66,003</td>
<td>+36.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07-09</td>
<td>48,448</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

G. As a result of serving in organization leadership positions, students will demonstrate on average, 8% increase over last year in the ability to handle stress management and will increase their engagement at the university due to an increased awareness of resources and support. Students serving in Student Government Association and Campus Union Board will complete a pre- and post assessment in August and in April using the National Association of Campus Activities Student Leader Competencies inventory.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Improvement</th>
<th>Engagement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09-10</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

H. Increase the number of events sponsored by Campus Union Board from 16 in 2009-2010 to 29 for 2010-11. The ability to increase this number of events is due to the collaboration across departments in the division of student affairs and with international education. A new Movie Series will be implemented for Fall 2010. The increase in number and type of events is a direct result of the establishment of the Division of Student Affairs Programming Committee.

I. For Fall 2010 the Student Affairs Programming Committee has restructured Welcome Week from a Campus Union Board sponsored program to a collaborative Welcome Week hosted by Residential Life, Recreation & Wellness, Student Activities, HOLA, Multicultural Affairs and International Education. The have changed the manner of programming by jointly front-loading programs to the first six weeks of the semester. There are now intentional co-sponsorship of programs that did not take place previously. The Committee will evaluate Welcome Week and evaluate the fall 2010 program efforts through evaluations from students, attendance at events and through observations. Changes will be made to the programming based on the results of the evaluations. The next step is to invite Intercollegiate Athletics to join the Committee and participate in a collaborative programming model for next year.
J. Studies show that students are more engaged in academic work and have higher graduation rates when they are involved in community service and service learning projects. Create a new volunteer services component for students offered through the department of student union and activities. A review of current volunteer services programs at similar size institutions is currently being conducted. Part of this review will include developing a partnership with the civic engagement efforts that Dr. Tatlock is undertaking.

2009-2010 35 volunteer service projects were carried out by student organizations and departments.
2008-2009 18 volunteer service projects were carried out by 12 student organizations and departments.

A way to document and record service work by organizations will be included in this plan. There were probably more service work projects taking place than the data indicates. There has not been a sound process for groups to report their service work.

Volunteer Service Fair sponsored by Navigate in 2009-25 non-profits attended, 320 students participated.

Volunteer Service Fair sponsored by Navigate in 2008-24 non-profits attended, 360 students participated.

K. Bring a third National Panhellenic sorority on campus. Currently we have Sigma Sigma Sigma and Alpha Sigma Tau. We have had success in increasing the number of national fraternities by two (Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia-2007 and Phi Iota Alpha-2008 national Latino fraternity)

We have increased the number of National Pan-Hellenic sororities by one (Zeta Phi Beta-2009) and (Sigma Alpha Iota-2010 national Latina sorority). As more female freshman live on campus Fall 2010-this access will improve communication between student activities and freshmen women on the opportunity to join an existing sorority or start a new colony with support from the university.

L. Multicultural Affairs will partner with Housing & Residence Life, HOLA, Recreation and Wellness, Counseling and Career Services to increase by 10% the number of students participating in a multicultural program.

09-10 20 programs with 1,741 students participating
08-09 20 programs with 1,148 students participating

Multicultural Affairs will establish a volunteer student program and promotion board to design programming and advertise on campus. They will establish a minority student early alert support Environment (EASE).

M. HOLA will develop by spring 2011 a student tutoring and mentor program called HOLA Serves, providing Armstrong students with the opportunity to serve ESL
classrooms in the community. Possible locations include YMCA of Coastal Georgia, Ronald McDonald House, Community HealthCare Mission.

Identify at-risk students and structure intervention plans to support, engage the student in ownership of their emotional well being and retain the student to the university.

A. Implement a new early warning identification program for those students living in Windward Commons to assess at-risk behavior that could affect their ability to complete the fall 2010 semester and return spring 2011. Of those students that receive an intervention through the early warning committee, the goal is to retain 88% to return spring 2011.

B. Implement a new Mental Health Status Assessment to aid on-call counselor in doing assessments by telephone or in person when contacted by University Police or Housing & Residence Life. Results of assessments will be compared to data gathered in Early Warning committee to see trends with at-risk behavior. We reviewed results from the Association for University and College Counseling Center Directors Survey and find that Armstrong students seen in counseling self-report higher anxiety when compared to the survey (Armstrong 41%, National Survey 34%). Armstrong students also self-report higher in depression (42%) when compared with the National Survey 36%).

C. Implement the Lethality Assessment checklist as a new measurement to be used in the Counseling Center to assess suicide risks and design intervention. It will serve as a baseline for patterns and/or trends.

D. Move location of Alcohol Education groups from Counseling Center to Windward Commons for September 2010. These are students mandated to attend a session as a result of using alcohol on campus. Moving the groups out of the Counseling Center removes a punitive perception that students may develop toward counseling. We can also hold the groups later in the evening and decrease scheduling problems for students.

E. Implement graduate clinical site for Georgia Southern University and Savannah State University. Using this resource will minimize the need to request a fee increase in the health fee for 2012-13.

   I. The Georgia Southern intern is a doctoral candidate who will provide 300 hours of service which include clinical and programming. The intern sees clients in Counseling Center and in Windward Commons staff office. Both sites can maintain confidentiality for the student and the case record. The programming will be offered collaboratively with health sciences, recreation and wellness, health and physical education and housing and residence life.

   II. The social work intern will be a second year student who will see clients a minimum of 10-15 hours per week in the Counseling Center.

This new program allows the department to expand contact hours/give more options for
students in seeing a counselor and not increase costs to the University. An evaluation of each intern will be conducted.

Research shows that congruence between student goals and institutional mission is mediated by academic and social components, and that increased integration into academic and social campus communities causes greater institutional commitment and student persistence. (Tinto, 1993) We are expanding partnerships with academic colleges to assist in recruiting and retaining quality students.

A. Establish first living-learning communities in freshmen residence hall for Fall 2010.

   I. Joint Fitness & Wellness living-learning community with Health & Physical Education and Recreation and Wellness. All students living in this community will enroll in PEBC Concepts of Living for 3 credits. Students will attend the course in Windward Commons.

   II. Joint Education living-learning community with College of Education-Dean’s office, Housing & Residence Life and Student Affairs. All students living in this community will enroll in EDC Critical & Contemporary Issues in Education. Students will attend the course in Windward Commons.

   III. STEM/STEP Theme housing sponsored by College of Science & Technology. Biology, chemistry, psychology, computer science, engineering, information technology, math and psychology may choose to live together in Windward Commons. A Community Assistant has been selected by Dr. Nivens and Housing & Residence Life for the floor.

   IV. Honors Theme housing coordinated by Honors and Student Affairs. Students living in this area must be admitted to the AASU Honors program and register in any Honors Course. A current Honors Community Assistant will be selected for this floor.

B. Navigate Orientation program for freshman is restructured effective June 2010 to place academic colleges, their deans and academic information in a prominent place early in the day. An assessment of program will be conducted at each session.

   I. Undecided freshman will now meet in a group with assistant deans and assistant director for career services to address identifying interests, skills, major selections and academic resources.

   II. Honors students will now be led through the orientation day by Dr. Roberts with all Honors students attending a navigate session placed into a single group.

   III. A round robin approach to presenting honor code/academic expectations, classroom demeanor, faculty/student relationship, social/behavioral
expectations and co-curricular life allows an improved presentation format and all groups will finish at the same time.

IV. Advising and registration process is redesigned to allow students to finish the process as a group and return to their parents as a group at the end of the day.

IV. Beginning June 2011, freshmen will be encouraged to live in Windward Commons during orientation. The program is in a discussion stage. It may remain a one night/one day program or be expanded to a two night/day and a half program. Should the program be expanded, the opportunities for first year experience activities/summer read, group bonding activities and leadership experiences are some options.

C. Design with academic colleges an orientation program for new graduate students. Currently only the College of Education offers an orientation program for its graduate students. The program will provide information on services and colleges will present information on its programs and requirements for graduation. This is planned for August 2011.

Create an environment for students living on campus to achieve their academic goals and develop life-skills that enhance personal development and live as a member of a safe and supportive community.

A. Beginning Fall 2010 Housing & Residence Life will place a high importance on academic and educational programs by offering 2/3 of the programming focusing on health and wellness, academic study support, personal time and financial management, alcohol and drug education, healthy relationships, career exploration and stress management.

B. Provide to each resident specific information on personal and property safety, fire safety and emergency response information.

C. Review all communication and procedural processes in Housing and Residence Life to ensure that processes are streamlined, place a priority on student needs and provide safe, accessible and comfortable living space. Review and make changes to processes will be completed by March 2011.

D. Advertise, search and hire a housing director with appropriate academic background and professional housing and supervision experience. Bring the new director on board by October 2010.

E. Planned with Financial Services to change all housing agreements from 12 month to 10 month beginning summer 2011. Only those students enrolling in summer classes will select a separate summer agreement. This will allow only students actually enrolled for summer school to live on campus.
Improve the entrepreneurship activities of the Division of Student Affairs.

A. Review enrollment in weekly programs offered through Elderhostel and increase or reduce expenses as a result of interest demonstrated by patrons. Identify possible program topics which can be promoted to new patrons. Manage all expenses associated with program and return a profit to the University on a yearly basis.

B. Work with Intercollegiate Athletics in their development of summer camps to use the residence hall as a venue for overnight camps.

Assists freshman students in developing academic plans by identifying strengths, interests, skills and talents.

A. Career Services will institute new Holland Interest Inventory for fall 2010 (the choice of a vocation is an expression of personality” and that the six factor typology he articulated could be used to describe both persons and work environments) for use with students exploring their interests. Inventory has not previously been used in Career Services.

B. Career Services will work with Academic Orientation & Advisement to provide sessions for all undecided majors to complete the Holland Inventory and where appropriate the Myers Briggs Type Indicator. This will be an expanded relationship between the two areas.

C. The Director of HOLA and Multicultural Affairs will be trained in administering the Holland and Myers Briggs and begin seeing students for career exploration Fall 2010. This will add much needed support to the department in seeing students on career and job search issues.

D. A new director of career services search is currently underway and position will be filled with a career development professional.

E. Career Services will finalize their move to the Memorial College Center by July.