

Engaging the Wisconsin Experience: Interconnecting Academic and Student Affairs

WISCAPE
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Outline for Today's Presentation



- Describe the *WI Experience* and its relation to the WI Idea
- Summary of campus activities around student learning and engagement with WI Experience
- Interactive discussion of how we can partner to achieve our campus learning goals

What's so special about UW-Madison??



- Producing world, national, and state leaders
- Strong history of student activism, shared governance
- Grounded in WI Idea - *what we do matters*

UW-Madison's educational mission...



to produce graduates who possess disciplinary & interdisciplinary knowledge about themselves & the world, and who are

- Critical thinkers & creative problem-solvers
- Actively seeking & applying new knowledge
- Able to adapt to new technologies & situations
- And who remain curious throughout their lives.

This happens through active engagement with peers, faculty, staff, and course material and co-curricular activities.

Elements of Effective Educational Practices Leading to Student Engagement:



- Collaborative and active learning
- Enriching educational experiences
- Interaction with faculty members
- Purposeful peer interactions
- High level of academic challenge coupled with supportive campus environment

Outcomes are even more dramatic for students of color and all those who are less prepared than their peers.

National Survey of Student Engagement Annual Report, 2006

The Wisconsin Experience

Helping students “live” the Wisconsin Idea through the active acquisition and application of knowledge:



- Substantial research experiences
- Global & cultural competences
- Leadership & activism opportunities
- Application of knowledge in “real world”

The Offices of the Dean of Students new Mission & Vision



Mission:

- To cultivate, advance and **interconnect** the academic, professional, personal, and social development of students and,
- To champion a respectful, globally engaged and diverse **university community**.

Vision:

To be the campus leader in inspiring students to live the Wisconsin Idea.

Using the Wisconsin Experience for Student Engagement



Some examples of what we are already doing:

- First-year interest groups
- Study Abroad
- Internships (grad and undergrad)
- Residential Learning Communities
- Undergraduate Research
- Honors theses
- Graduate research training & leadership
- TA experiences
- Student Orgs
- Leadership Certificate (and SoHE, CALS adaptations)
- FYE Goals (and adoption in CALS)
- Service Learning and Community-based research
- **Lots** of classroom experimentation...

Using the Wisconsin Experience For Student Engagement

*What else can we do? Some examples from
ODOS/Faculty Partnership Meetings:*



- Speakers Network
- BRIDGE program connecting int'l and U.S. students
- WI Idea capstone experiences
- Biology adaptation of Leadership Certificate
- CALS's adaptation of FYE goals
- Greater use of Peer Mentors
- "Leadership Record"
- Graduation Recognition
- Intentional use of "First-Year Curriculum" (about 2/3rds of frosh currently take)
- ODOS Co-teaching as "practitioners"
- ODOS Collaboration on research/student outcome assessments
- TA-ships explicitly as professional development
- ODOS Student issues brown-bags/roundtable series

Developing and Enhancing the Wisconsin Experience

What you can do...



- Join some of these programs that interest you most
- Create your own programs
- Experiment in the classroom and outside of it
- Adapt campus-wide programs for your department or unit
- Use "partner" vs. "service to" language
- Provide "administrative cover" & partner with others who experiment with new teaching and co-curricular activities (leadership certificate adaptations, service learning opportunities, FYE goal adoption, etc.)
- Think through how your unit/office/department contributes to students' WI Experience, and what "counts"