Living-Learning Community
Best Practices:
A Collaboration Between
Academic and Student Affairs

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University of South Florida
Florida NASPA Drive-In
October 7, 2011

USF Student Affairs
Inspiring learning, changing lives, one student at a time.
Overview

- Current research on living and learning programs
- Programs at University of South Florida
- Reflection & discussion
Living Learning Communities

- “…innovative Living Learning Communities that enhance the overall university experience while providing special emphasis on one’s academic program or area of special interest.”

- USF Housing & Residential Education, 2011
Current Research

- Living-learning programs: One high-impact educational practice we now know a lot about (Brower & Inkelas, 2010)
- National Study of Living Learning Programs (NSLLP)
- Program themes
LLC Environmental Elements

- Peer study groups
- Academic discussions
- Cultural discussions
- Course-related faculty interaction
- Supportive residence hall environment
Successful LLCs

- Academic & Student Affairs partnership
  - Communication & budget
- Learning objectives & academic focus
  - Class & study space
- Community setting & learning opportunities
  - Faculty, staff & students have variety of roles
LLCs at the University of South Florida

- Zimmerman Advertising Program
- Bulls Business Community (BBC)
- Engineering
- Green
- Honors
- Leadership
- Nursing
- ROTC
- Transfer
- Wellness
Standard Programs

- In-house tutoring
- In-house advising
- LLC advisors
Peer Mentoring Programs

- BBC mentor program
  - Corporate Mentor Program

- Honors mentor program
  - Liaison between college and LLC
Faculty Based Programs

- Attendance by Deans, Faculty & Staff
- Classes in residence halls
Professional Development

- Corporate Mentor Program
- Company tours
- Improvisation sessions
- Professional dress
- Etiquette dinner
- Cover letter and résumé writing
- Networking events
- Microsoft app program
International Experiences

- BBC
  - Study abroad programs

- Honors
  - Alternative Breaks
  - International Courses
  - INTO Students
Encouraging Participation

- LLC fees
- Scholarships
- Student point system
Encouraging Collaboration

- Academic partner resources
- Housing & Residential Education resources
- Meetings
- Programming models
- Cross attending programs
Looking Forward: Assessing our LLCs

- Encouragement to develop learning outcomes
  - Assessment efforts
    - Academic progress
    - Tracking attendance
    - Trends
    - Feedback
    - Satisfaction
Best Practices from Research & Experience

Research
- Peer study groups
- Academic discussions
- Cultural discussions
- Course-related faculty interaction
- Supportive residence hall environment

Experience
- Faculty involvement
- Designated advisors
- Intentional programming
- Physical aggregate
Let’s Talk

- Share your stories
- Questions & answers
Thank You

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**Best Practices from Research & Experience**

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**Experience**
- Faculty involvement
- Designated advisors
- Intentional programming
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**Questions to think about:**

What are your students passionate about inside and outside of the classroom?

Do you have an idea for LLCs at your school or a way to improve existing ones?

What concept or practice is most applicable to your institution?

**Contact us!**

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