Academic Affairs Annual Report: 2011-2012
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In reflecting on the past year, I am proud of our many accomplishments, which were possible only with the participation of the entire division, both faculty and staff. I am fortunate in—and grateful for—the commitment and energy that you all bring to the collective Nazareth experience.

Our progress in meeting the 2011-2012 Institutional Goals is detailed below, in the report that I submitted to the President. Among the more notable developments were the ongoing implementation of the Core Curriculum (including planning for the experiential component and the construction of P@N, the Nazareth ePortfolio), the establishment of the Center for Student Success (including the new Office of Veterans’ Affairs), the development and implementation of the Strategic Analysis of Academic Programs, and the implementation of strategies to expand enrollments in HHS, the School of Management, and the College of Arts and Sciences.

In addition to these, every department and school reported on a productive year. Here are a few highlights:

• In HHS, the organization of the Advisory Committee for the Academic Center for Wellness and Rehabilitation and the collaborative relationship with the Unity health Care System.
• Wilmot Library’s leadership in the regional Information Delivery System project.
• In the Center for International Education, the receipt of two Gilman Study Abroad Scholarships for Minority Students.
• The Academic Advisement Center and the Center for Student Success implemented an intervention program for at-risk first-year students, including a contract and regular meetings with a success coach.
• In the School of Management, enhanced marketing materials and recruitment activities and a successful site visit by the IACBE accreditation team.
• In the College of Arts and Sciences, state approval for six degree programs and Trustee approval for an additional four.
• CARS 2012—in which 193 undergraduate and graduate students presented scholarly and creative work. This initiative was spearheaded by the Center for Teaching Excellence and the Working Group on Undergraduate Research.
• Lifeprep@Naz completed a successful first year, involving 80+ Naz students as mentors or in other capacities.
• The Registrar’s Office revised the master schedule development and workload process, resulting in a standardized, more efficient and paperless process as well as improved resources (revised forms and instructions, workshops, web materials and reports).
• The continued leadership of the Academic Assessment Committee, with the support of IR&A.
Progress on Institutional Goals: 2011-2012

Continue implementation of the undergraduate Core Curriculum and develop strategies for enhancing communication regarding its status and impact.

--We are on track for full implementation of all elements of the Core Curriculum in fall 2013. All three major components of the curriculum are in the development process.

--Planning groups prepared proposals for the experiential component and the electronic portfolio system.

--In support of the Core Curriculum implementation and the strengthening of the Nazareth “assessment culture,” staff from Academic Affairs and ITS selected and recommended an ePortfolio tool – Chalk & Wire. The ePortfolio, now known as P@N, will be piloted in selected programs in Fall 2012

--The Director of the Core Curriculum and Enrollment Management staff are collaborating on themes that may be used in marketing. A core web site was established.

Implement programmatic changes to achieve the retention goals recommended by the Student Success Team.

--In collaboration, Academic Affairs and Student Development created a Center for Student Success that will coordinate existing support services and oversee new support strategies.

--Academic Advisement provided high risk incoming freshmen (below 80 high school GPA) with tailored course schedules and communication with parents.

--Academic Advisement and the Registrar implemented a revised online course progress alert form and revised the midterm grade process for fall 2011.

--Center for Student Success developed specifications for early alert software, to be implemented in fall 2012.

--Faculty and staff from Academic Affairs and Student Development piloted a new College Success course. Assessment data is being used to revise the course structure and organization. Instructors are currently being recruited for full implementation in fall 2012.

--The Center for Student Success piloted drop-in tutoring and implemented tutor training.

--Academic Advisement implemented a structured follow up for students on probation.
A coaching program for at-risk students was piloted in spring 2012 with broader implementation slated for fall 2012.

A working group studied the retention of biology majors and recommended that we identify and support those at risk with adjusted course schedules, etc.

Freshman to sophomore retention for fall 2012 appears at the moment to be robust.

Develop plans and initiate implementation for enhancing support and integration of the following students into the Nazareth community:

Within Academic Affairs, the Coordinator of Veteran Student Enrollment and Support was hired and the Office of Veterans’ Affairs was established.

The Enrollment Management division and the Coordinator have established guidelines for comprehensive and collaborative review of the admissions materials for applicants with military service.

In addition to the staff members of the Center for Student Success, numerous staff across the divisions continue to meet with the Coordinator of Veteran Student Enrollment and Support Services.

The residency requirement policy was altered to create a smoother pathway for younger veteran students considering enrollment at Nazareth.

Upon consultation with the Undergraduate Association, a club for student veterans was initiated in spring 2012.

Academic Affairs improved the advisement/registration sessions to better welcome new transfer students entering fall 2011 and enhanced the orientation program for transfer students.

In spring 2012 the Center for Student Success established an interdivisional planning group to coordinate transfer services/initiatives.

Residential Life collaborated with the Center for International Education to prepare for and welcome international students into the residential community. Residential Life implemented the Good Will Ambassador Program whereby the Residential Life staff talks with students who have a roommate vacancy about having an international student roommate. The RA training has also been enhanced this year regarding international students who are living in the residence halls.
Establish planning processes for degree program offerings:

Develop a process for assessing the viability of existing and proposed degree programs

--The Strategic Analysis of Academic Programs is on schedule to deliver its report to the President by October 15, 2012.

Set priorities regarding the development of new degree programs

--This will emerge from the College of 2020 strategic planning process.

--The Vice President for Academic Affairs and Curriculum Committee revised and the Academic Affairs Committee endorsed the template for program proposals. This includes an enhanced presentation of demand and cost in proposed programs.

Determine program capacities, particularly within the School of Health and Human Services and the School of Management

--An enrollment plan for the School of Health and Human Services was developed; 209 new students will be added by 2014-2015.

--The School of Management retained an outside firm to study admissions factors influencing admitted students’ decisions to not enroll in Nazareth College.

--The School of Management implemented new recruitment strategies beginning fall 2011 for undergraduate and graduate applicants, including social media and personal networking. Current enrollment figures suggest some success at the undergraduate level.

--The College of Arts and Sciences has embarked on a plan to enhance enrollments by developing new program options in the sciences, offering BFA degrees in Art and Theatre, developing degree programs in Asian Studies and Chinese, and exploring other way to embed professional preparation in LAS programs.

Implement a college-wide reporting template for administrative assessment and planning:

Link planning at the unit level to the strategic plan

--Under the leadership of Institutional Research and Assessment, this goal has been accomplished. Vice Presidents’ and Administrative Directors’ goals were reported to IR&A, linked to the strategic plan, and input into TracDat. Completion status of these goals will be updated by June 1, 2012 and systems are in place to support this process.
Administrative assessment plans have been posted and a regular cycle of reporting assessment of noninstructional activates has been established.

**Develop academic and administrative collaborations with area colleges to deploy effectively shared resources.**

--The VPAA hosted a summit meeting with faculty and advisement and admissions staff from Monroe Community College on March 7, 2012. The “summit” will reconvene at MCC on June 27 to report on progress on project identified on March 7.

--The Vice President for Academic Affairs met with the Executive Assistant to the President at Finger Lakes Community College regarding adult learners. The Dean of the School of Management is continuing these discussions.

--The faculty of Nazareth’s biology department have been in conversation with FLCC regarding environmental studies.

--Academic VPs of RIT, Brockport, and Nazareth College have met to discuss the possibility of establishing an “academic commons” among the three institutions, including possible common calendar, and sharing resources to deliver specific academic programs.

--A few students are now coming into our math/science education articulation with RIT.

--Additional international partnerships with universities in China, France, Korea, Ireland, and Brazil have been established. The partnerships have yielded enrollments for the American Language Institute.

--The CIE and CAS have worked together to nurture a 2+2 agreement Shandong Normal University in China; five student in the Visual and Performing Arts are on track to come to Nazareth in Fall 2013.

**Complete the math/science building:**

**Continue program planning**

--Under the leadership of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, programs in Toxicology and Clinical Lab Scientist have been approved.

--The CTE and the Working Group on Undergraduate Student Research implemented a Student Research Pilot Project, resulting in a needs analysis of and expanded support for student research in 17 departments.
Building on the interest in student research activity, CARS 2012 (a symposium for student research and creative activity) showcased the work of 193 students (graduate and undergraduate), with 42 faculty sponsors from 21 different departments. An estimated 300-400 individuals (including faculty, students, staff and parents) participated in or attended the event.

**Implement the Culture of Wellness strategic plan.**

--The Core Curriculum Committee and the Campus Wellness Committee determined that, rather than a formal wellness requirement, the college should develop a robust “culture of health and wellness.” The Wellness Committee will follow up on this in the Fall.

**Develop and implement programming to meet the needs of the College for faculty and staff professional development.**

--Within Academic Affairs, the Director of the Core and the Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence offered faculty 18 development events. In addition, two discussion groups met to discuss reflection and critical thinking.