

# Using Academic Advisement to Build Bridges for Student Engagement

WNY Advising Conference  
February 24, 2016

# Good Morning!

- Early Observations

- The Room
- The People
- The Presenter
- Popsicle Sticks & Duct Tape!

- Guiding Questions

- *How can students engage on campus and in our community?*
- *How do advisers help make these connections?*

# The Centrality of Academic Advising

- Academic advising, based in the teaching and learning mission of higher education, is a series of intentional interactions with a curriculum, a pedagogy, and a set of student learning outcomes. Academic advising synthesizes and contextualizes students' educational experiences within the frameworks of their aspirations, abilities and lives to extend learning beyond campus boundaries and timeframes. (NACADA)

# Institutionalized Importance

- **Proposed Campus Advisement Mission Statement for SUNY Buffalo State**
- Academic advisement serves as inspiration, motivation, and support for all students in their academic and professional goals as they develop as members of the Buffalo State community and transition to being active alumni leaders of a diverse society.



# Advising for Student Engagement

- What is Student Engagement?
  - Student engagement represents two critical features of collegiate quality.
  - The first is the amount of time and effort students put into their studies and other educationally purposeful activities.
  - The second is how the institution deploys its resources and organizes the curriculum and other learning opportunities to get students to participate in activities that decades of research studies show are linked to student learning. (NSSE)

# What are High-Impact Practices?

- Due to their positive associations with student learning and retention, certain undergraduate opportunities are designated "high-impact." High-Impact Practices (HIPs) share several traits:
  - They demand considerable time and effort,
  - facilitate learning outside of the classroom,
  - require meaningful interactions with faculty and students,
  - encourage collaboration with diverse others, and
  - provide frequent and substantive feedback. As a result, participation in these practices can be life-changing (Kuh, 2008).

# What are the NSSE Identified HIIPs?

- Learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together
- Courses that included a community-based project (service-learning)
- Work with a faculty member on a research project
- Internship, co-op, field experience, student teaching, or clinical placement
- Study abroad
- Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, portfolio, etc.)



# Building Bridges

Refugees,  
Immigrants, and  
Students with  
the International  
Institute of  
Buffalo

Community Partner Fair:  
Journey's End Refugee  
Services, Crisis Services, Gay  
& Lesbian Youth Services of  
WNY, WNY Heroes

Finding  
(and using)  
voice

Growth mindset

Cultural competency

Learning  
Disabilities  
with the  
College  
Internship  
Program





# Questions? Closing Thoughts?

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