

Annual Report to the Provost

June 3, 2019

The following is an executive summary of the division's priorities and major accomplishments during the 2018-19 academic year, and strategic priorities for the coming year.

MARCH 2018 TO MAY 2019 TOP THREE STRATEGIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Enhanced Welcome Week events

In alignment with Grounded in Mission, Student Affairs expanded and enhanced its student welcome event offerings and set a goal to achieve 10,000 student touchpoints between August 27 and the first week of classes—a goal surpassed by over 2000 students. Data from the fall welcome shows increased student participation and engagement of students across colleges, academic levels and residential status. **Overall, there were 19,394 student touch points through September 25, 2019, 6084 of which were unique.** Attendance at some signature events was as follows:

- 2304 students at Involvement Fair
- 910 students at Taste of DePaul
- 782 students at First Night Fun
- 653 students at Community Fest
- 637 students at Loop Block Party

2. Student Success Coaching

Grounded in Mission Goal 3.2B calls for DePaul to enhance first-year transition programs. To meet this call, Student Affairs established the Student Success Coaching program for first-year students in Winter Quarter 2019. Twenty-one upper-level undergraduate and graduate students were trained to help students develop measurable personal and academic goals and direct students to university resources that support their goals. **Since its launch in January, over 388 students have contacted their coach, and coachees have attended over 850 coaching sessions with their coaches.**

3. Naloxone program/training

Student Affairs launched the Opioid Overdose Prevention and Response program in late January 2019 in support of the DePaul campus community. Thirty-eight kits containing the opioid antagonist drug naloxone, or Narcan, are now located at 32 points across both campuses. The kits are located in most defibrillators (AEDs) on campus, all Public Safety Patrol cars, front desks of residence halls on campus and the libraries on both campuses. **Over 140 staff have been trained to recognize an overdose and administer Narcan.**

JUNE 2019 TO JUNE 2020 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1. New student academic convocation

Consistent with Grounded in Mission a new student academic convocation for all new undergraduate students (freshmen and transfer) has been planned for Fall 2019. The Blue Demon Welcome will take place on September 10, 2019, 10 a.m. at Wintrust Arena. Transportation to Wintrust will be provided from both campuses. Planning around implementation will be ongoing to the day of the event.

2. **Increased emphasis on affinity and traditions**

Grounded in Mission also calls for a focus on increasing traditions and affinity at DePaul. A new position in Student Affairs will be responsible for affinity programs as related to Goal 2.1, and for advising a new student programming body, the DePaul Traditions Council. The goal is to establish eight new affinity-building events with target student attendance of 500 or more in order to improve the student experience and increase current students' affinity for DePaul.

During the past two years, Student Affairs has introduced a number of new traditions that have seen significant attendance, and we intend to continue this work:

- Over 1100 students attended the Midnight Breakfast in November 2018
- Over 1000 students and 500 faculty attended the President's Tree Lighting and Ugly Sweater Party in November 2018
- Almost 400 students attended the Winter Welcome Back Lunch in January 2019

3. **Expanded first generation college student program**

In order to support Grounded in Mission's goal 3.2E to improve first-year retention rates, **Generation Success**, a new first generation college student program will be launched this fall. This new initiative aims to support those who are first in their families to attend college in the U.S. Students will take a Discover Chicago course together, have a peer mentor, have a staff or faculty mentor and will receive a \$500 stipend.

KEY AREA ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. **Student Cultural and Resource Centers usage**

During the 2018-19 academic year to date, **over 900 students visited one of the cultural and resource centers on the third floor of the O'Connell Building in Lincoln Park over 6500 times**. The Black Cultural Center saw 244 students visit over 1100 times; the Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Cultural Center saw 244 students visit over 1000 times; the Latinx Cultural Center had 526 students visit over 3600 times and the LGBTQIA Student Resource Center had 238 students visit over 750 times.

2. **Esports at C2E2, Esports Gaming Center management moved to Student Affairs**

For the first time in the university's history, DePaul played host to two gaming panels and co-sponsored an Overwatch competition on 12 computers across almost 2500 square feet of expo space on March 24 at the Chicago Comic and Entertainment Expo (C2E2).

3. **Veteran Lounge established in Loop**

A large office space was repurposed to become a lounge for student veterans. The Veterans Lounge provides a location for finding resources, relaxing, building community and studying. **The lounge opened in late September 2018, and has been visited 2,178 times by 128 students.**

4. **Christmas Tree Lighting /Ugly Sweater Party**

Student Affairs organized DePaul's first ever Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony and a corresponding student event, the first-ever Ugly Sweater Party. Both events were held on Tuesday, November 7 in the Lincoln Park Quad and St. Vincent's Circle. **Over 1000 students and close to 500 faculty and staff attended the event.**

PROGRAM RECOGNITION AND/OR RANKINGS

1. University Counseling Services designated an Outstanding Training Site by Association of Chicagoland Externship and Practicum Training (ACEPT)

DePaul University Counseling Services has been designated 'Outstanding Training Site' for the 2018-2019 academic year by the Association of Chicagoland Externship and Practicum Training (ACEPT). ACEPT represents academic program members in counseling and clinical psychology training programs as well as 60 training sites in the Chicago area.

STAFF SIGNIFICANT LEADERSHIP ROLES

- **Carrie Don**, business manager in Student Affairs, is the **operations co-chair for the 2019 Region IVE NASPA conference**.
- **Courtney James**, director in the Office of Student Involvement, was the **2018 National Association of Campus Activities (NACA) national convention chair**.
- **Ellen Meents-DeCaigny, PhD**, assistant vice president for Student Affairs, served as the **national director of knowledge communities for the NASPA Board of Directors**.
- **James Stewart**, director of Adult, Veteran and Commuter Student Affairs, is **co-chair of the 2019 Region IVE NASPA conference**.

NATIONAL STUDENT HONORS OR AWARDS

1. Three students honored with national scholarships from Order of Omega

DePaul's Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) community had three students earn national scholarships from Order of Omega, the honor society for members of the FSL Community. Successful applicants display leadership and service to their Order of Omega chapter, fraternity and sorority community, and campus community. Alex Goodman and Julia Syrek-Jablonowska were both awarded The Patrick W. Halloran Scholarship, and Olivia Homan was awarded The Kent L. Gardner Scholarship. The three DePaul students were **among only 138 students across the nation** who were awarded the national scholarships.

2. Panhellenic community receives National Panhellenic Conference award

DePaul's Panhellenic Sorority Community has received the Academic Recognition award from the National Panhellenic Conference. This award is given to campuses that have collectively achieved a higher all-sorority average than its all-women's average.

3. Student Athlete Academic Achievements

Athletic academic achievements are celebrated each winter for the previous academic year. In 2019 we celebrated the following athlete academic achievements for the 2017-18 academic year:

- The program as a whole recorded a 3.455 GPA.
- Four teams earned the highest GPA in the BIG EAST Conference.
- 172 of our student-athletes were named to the 2017-2018 BIG EAST All-Academic Team.

In addition to last year's achievement, student-athletes continued academic excellence in the 2018-2019 Fall Quarter:

- 184 student-athletes (85.6%) earned over a 3.0 GPA.
- 130 student-athletes (60.5%) earned over a 3.5 GPA.
- 40 student-athletes (18.6%) earned a perfect 4.0 GPA.