

Academic Mission of Wichita State: *The mission of Wichita State University is to be an essential educational, cultural and economic driver for Kansas and the greater public good.*

Examples of How Student Involvement Supports the Academic Mission of the University

Student Involvement

- Many studies have shown that an involved student is more likely to stay in school and graduate. By providing a myriad of involvement opportunities we are aiding retention of students.
- We are currently working with Academic Affairs to develop seminars for first time students.
- In the fall 2015 semester we are holding two assessment symposiums to educate faculty and staff about the benefits of involvement including how involved students overall do better in the classroom.

Cadman Art Gallery

- The gallery serves as a learning lab for students, who are art majors, to gain experience in curating, organizing and executing an exhibition of their work.
- Given the prominent location of the gallery, students and other patrons are exposed to art, some of whom may never step into a gallery.
- The gallery attendants learn skills such as working with a diverse community, critical thinking, communication, management and hospitality services that can translate into their academic major and future careers.

Civic Engagement

- We have been working with Dr. Rick Muma and our two service-learning faculty fellows to promote and educate faculty about service-learning and help them incorporate it into their class. This support has included seminars, a resource handbook and one-on-one consultations.
- We are currently working with a campus committee to develop a service-learning certificate.
- We are currently working with Academic Affairs and faculty to identify which classes have a service-learning component.

Fraternity and Sorority Life

- Throughout the different chapters, students are required to maintain a certain GPA and are provided tools, such as tutors, study halls and major mentors, to help them succeed academically.
- We have developed an academic support plan for those students who fall below a 2.00 GPA. After grade reports are run, we identify these students, contact them and require that they meet with Student Success to develop an academic success plan. We check in with them at the beginning, mid-term and end of the semester.
- We have created study cohorts by academic college.

Leadership

- We are currently working with a campus committee to develop a leadership certificate.
- We are currently working with Academic Affairs and faculty to identify which classes have a leadership component.
- We have worked with the College of Engineering to receive approval for students who attend the Summer Leadership Institute to use this experience to fulfill the leadership component of Engineering 2020.

Student Activities Council

- For a number of years we have sponsored a department resource fair in the fall and in the spring which provides students the opportunity to learn about the various campus departments and their services that contribute to academic success.
- Each semester we sponsor educational programs which complement the academic experience and which many times faculty will offer for extra credit. Examples include Sex Ed Boot Camp, Walk a Mile in Her Shoes and Students Fight Back.
- SAC offers training and development opportunities to its members that enhance their leadership, time management, communication and networking skills, which can enhance and contribute to their classroom experience. Cooperative Education opportunities are available to those student leaders with complementary majors.

Student Organizations

- Currently there are 37 different academic-focused organizations and a few more who are chartering.
- We have been working with the College of Engineering to realign their student organizations and elevate the Engineering Council to serve as an umbrella organization. This organization will provide more specific resources, such as mentoring, additional funding for travel and training, engineering specific project materials and additional outreach to local companies for internships and co-ops.
- We have been working with the Business and Health Professions Dean's ambassador programs to train their leadership and create additional opportunities for students to engage with faculty outside the classroom in the form of job shadowing and mentorships.