

UW-EAU CLAIRE BEST PRACTICES

GOAL I

- ◆ The Commanding English Language Program (CEP) is a collaborative effort among the departments of Foreign Languages, English, the offices of Admissions, Academic and Career Services, Multicultural Affairs, Academic Skills Center, Academic Advising, and Grants supported partially with federal dollars for Special Programs for Students from Disadvantaged Backgrounds (also known as TRIO), which provides access to students for whom English is their second language.
 - The Foreign Languages department and the office of Academic and Career Services serve as the umbrella for the Commanding English Language Program to help students with limited English proficiency to develop academic and language skills to levels required for academic success in English 110 and the English competency exam requirements at UW-Eau Claire. CEP staff members work closely with faculty and staff to identify and select applicants who appear to be well matched for participation in the program and who have the potential to be successful at UW-Eau Claire.
 - Of students who were enrolled in English 099, CEP students had an average GPA of 3.01 while students not in CEP had an average GPA of 2.67.
 - Of students enrolled in English 099, CEP students earned an average grade of B+ while the students not enrolled in CEP earned an average grade of B.
 - Eight students who entered the University through CEP have graduated from UW-Eau Claire.

- ◆ The Diversity Scholars Weekend Program was developed and implemented in December 1999 to enhance the opportunities for UW-Eau Claire to compete in a national market to attract and retain academically superior multicultural/ disadvantaged students. The targeted populations are those who have an ACT of 25 or higher and are in the top 25% of their graduating class.
 - For the first three years of the Diversity Scholars weekend, a total of 33 students attended of whom 26 enrolled at UW-Eau Claire for a yield of 79%.
 - By attracting better prepared students we have seen our semester and cumulative grade point averages for students of color climb to the highest level they have ever been. It is evident that the quality of our students is improving because the grade point averages are rising with simultaneous increases in student population.

GOAL II:

- ◆ The National Youth Sports Program (NYSP) provides economically disadvantaged youth (ages 6-14) with academic and sports skill instruction and sports competition to improve their physical fitness and health habits and become acquainted with career and educational opportunities on a college campus.
 - The NYSP program received the “Meritorious Award” for ten consecutive years (awarded to the top 10 programs nationwide) and has twice received the prestigious “Silvio O. Conte Award” (awarded to the top program out of over 200 programs nationwide).

- ◆ Hmong Radio recruitment ads, sponsored by UW-Eau Claire News Bureau and the Office of Multicultural Affairs, are broadcast in Hmong during the weekly Hmong news hour.
 - These ads are produced under the direction of the Hmong coordinator and often feature currently enrolled Hmong students who share their perspective on attending UW-Eau Claire.

- ◆ The student group MOSAIC (Making Our School an Intercultural Community) continues to receive national and regional recognition for their Residence Life Programming. Housing and Residence Life was honored in 1999 with the “Diversity School of the Year Award.” Programming includes the following:
 - The Tunnel of Oppression, the largest of MOSAIC’s initiatives, attracts over 5,000 observers per year. It creates potential life-changing experiences for all participants as well as providing a series of vignettes alerting participants to discriminatory and harassing behavior.
 - V Day College Campaign and The Vagina Monologues production raise the issue of violence against women and celebrate women being comfortable with their bodies.
 - Alternative Prom and National Coming Out Day are events that address Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender issues.
 - African American History Month
 - Women’s History Month
 - Hispanic/Latino Awareness Week
 - American Indian and Asian American cultural celebrations
 - Hmong New Year

- ◆ The Peer Diversity Educators serve over 2,000 students and provide peer education to residence hall students on a variety of diversity topics. Additionally, the Peer Diversity Educator Program:
 - Provides in-depth diversity training for residence hall staff.
 - Provides opportunities for faculty and staff to infuse diversity into their curriculum through peer-to-peer education.
 - Earns outstanding evaluations by staff and students. These evaluations are completed at the end of each presentation.
 - Received numerous state and regional awards for their work, including the Upper Midwest Region Association of College and University Housing Officers (UMRACUHO) 2002 Diversity Organization of the Year Award; the Great Lakes Affiliation of Colleges and University Residence Halls (GLACURH) Diversity Program of the Month for two programs; and Kelly Koster was awarded the Student of the Month Award for her work with the Peer Diversity Educators.

GOAL III: NOTE STATED

GOAL IV:

- ◆ The multicultural scholarship initiative, a collaborative effort between the Office of Multicultural Affairs, UW-Eau Claire Foundation, Financial Aid office, Admissions office, and private investors, has intensified efforts in developing and creating numerous scholarships available to students of color. Scholarship offerings at UW-Eau Claire have increased from five \$1,000 scholarships in 1988 to 22 scholarships totaling over \$163,000 in fall 2002.
- ◆ The College of Business has created what is believed to be the first endowed multicultural student College of Business scholarship in the UW System. The Jacob Leinenkugel Brewing Company College of Business Sophomore Diversity Scholarship is sponsored by its parent company, Miller Brewing Company, and establishes a scholarship fund, which allows the university to award six \$1,000 scholarships per year for sophomore through senior business majors.
- ◆ Due to the increase in several departments' creation of scholarship offerings to students of color, several individuals have taken the initiative to establish named scholarships throughout the university and community.
 - Jim Vance Diversity scholarship named after the Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs; three \$500 scholarships are available annually.

- Murial M. Boyken Diversity Scholarship created by William and Murial Boyken s an example of their commitment to diversity; a \$1,000 scholarship awarded annually.
- E. E. Sissy Walsh-Bouchard & Thomas Bouchard Diversity scholarship created for a student who has shown leadership ability; a \$1,000 scholarship awarded annually.
- Sally A. Webb Diversity Tuition Scholarship in Organizational Communication created and named after a Communication/Journalism professor who also serves as a coach for the student emcees of our scholarship banquet; a \$500 scholarship awarded annually.
- Chris and Randy Perine Washington High School Scholarship created by the Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs and named in recognition of two outstanding Washington High School graduates; a scholarship awarded on an annual basis to a Washington High School graduate enrolling at UW-Eau Claire.
- Academic Skills Tutoring Scholarship created in collaboration with the Multicultural Affairs office to recognize the major contribution students of color make through their willingness and involvement as tutors and mentors in the Targeted Tutoring Program.
- American Indian Alumni Scholarship was established by American Indian Alumni students in 2001 to assist students attending UW-Eau Claire who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and academic achievement.
- Hmong Student Alumni Scholarship was established by the Hmong Student Alumni in 2000 to assist students attending UW-Eau Claire who have financial need and have demonstrated outstanding leadership and academic achievement.

GOAL V:

- ◆ The Knight Foundation Journalist-in-Residence Program is a unique partnership between UW-Eau Claire's Communication and Journalism department and South Dakota State University's Journalism and Mass Communication department, with primary support provided from the Knight Foundation.
 - The partnership will focus on the American Indian and Hmong communities that exist in the region with the primary objective to sensitize our student to these two communities, to work with any existing newspaper associations and to recruit additional journalist students from these two communities.
 - Two Knight Journalist-in-Residence served in the department of Communication and Journalism during 2001-2002. They infused diversity curriculum into courses they taught, offering a workshop about American Indian and Hmong diversity issues for UW-Eau Claire students, high school newspaper advisers from the service area, and the general public, . One resident is continuing a part-time instructional position and is pursuing a Master's degree in Education.

- ◆ The newly created position of “Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Development and Diversity” will serve as a member of the Academic Affairs Leadership Council as well as the Chancellor’s Executive and Administrative staffs.
 - This position provides leadership and advances the goals, objectives, and assessment of the University’s Plan 2008 for promoting a campus climate which fosters multicultural diversity and respect for differences including cultural, racial, ethnic, gender, sexual orientation, national origins, religious, age, and disabilities.
 - This position serves as the administrative liaison to the Student Senate and represents the interests of students and diversity on University and System committees.

GOAL VI:

- ◆ Develop courses in American Indian Language(s).
 - Developed and implemented course in Ojibwe.
 - Plans to offer Lakota language courses.
 - Plans to develop Ho Chunk language courses.
 - Successful completion meets the language and diversity requirements in the College of Arts and Sciences.
- ◆ Develop Hmong Language courses. These courses will allow students to be able to read, understand, pronounce and write in the Hmong language. At the conclusion of the courses students will be expected to demonstrate proficiency in the Hmong language and culture in oral and written forms.
 - Developed and implemented two courses in the Hmong language that were approved by the university curriculum committee and satisfy the requirements for foreign language and diversity in the College of Arts and Sciences.
- ◆ The Artists/Forum Series provides intellectually engaging programs for the university community. Additionally, the series provides exposure to the performing arts and is believed to be the oldest (over 60 years) such continuous program in the United States.
 - The Forum series provides dynamic lecture and dialogue among prestigious personalities (such as the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.) and promotes creative thought and multicultural awareness.

- The Artist Series provides performances in musical arenas, dance, and theatre arts and has featured groups such as the Tibetan Monks and Pilobolus Dance Theatre.