

Meeting Notes

Service Area Meeting

Friday, September 17, 2010

1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

B. 200, room 203

Vision

- **Loss of centralization of students**, where other parts of the document identifies centrality and uniqueness of students, e.g. NSSE

Academic Plan

- Building a Unique Identity (page 2) – **Aboriginal culture: VIU should not build its identity on Aboriginal culture.** Leads to question of are we taking that idea and misusing it (i.e. putting in one bottle)
 - **An important theme but use of the term ‘culture’ is problematic**
- Challenged by academic and non-academic student services separation (how was this determined?) – **seems to be in conflict with collaboration notion on page 2**
- Comprehensive approach to students seems to be detrimentally affected by recommendations for split of student services
- **Student services history has been one of good collaboration** – it may be possible to make student services more efficient but it is a big topic that requires more careful thought
- **Opportunity to create a Student Services Plan**
- **Support services are also critical** to student success – these areas are under resourced (to students and to other student service areas)
- **Need to recognize there are many forms of learning and that learning happens everywhere**, e.g. student employment opportunity on campus; field trips; student co-ops; internships; **experiential learning**. Need more focus and discussion upon learning across the institution
- Issues of growth in instruction versus lack of growth in services, e.g. 43% increase in number of students with registered disabilities
- Frequency and intensity of **student service needs increasing significantly**, therefore, strain upon service delivery increasing
- Lack of health and wellness centre affects employee and student well being
- Experience in all aspects of health and wellbeing including recreation is important
- How does tenure affect those teaching in non-VIUFA positions?
- International students are not discussed in detail; what is future for international students?
- Page 57 – ESL is listed under pre-entry to University, however, many have completed some university or high school and are included with high school students, this is not respectful.
 - Two top levels of ESL should give students credit
- **Concern for inequity of workloads**, e.g. nursing department has 32 hours/others have 24
 - **Collapsing into larger class sizes decreases learning experience and increases workloads**