

Goal 1: Excellence in Teaching and Learning

C. Enhance undergraduate student learning and success

Sampler Course (introductory University College course)

Introductory one- or two-credit hour sampler course to give students an idea of trends, research, and potential career opportunities in various disciplines. Somewhat superficial (but valuable) exposure that can be helpful to students in selecting a major, making a more informed decision about future courses, and perhaps reducing the time to graduation.

Committee: Sarah Baker, Scott Evenbeck [chair], and Joan Pedersen.

Current status

- IUPUI offers many courses that assist students in making career choices. (See Appendix A of the full report.)
- The Advising Center and the Career Center work with students to help them make career choices.

Recommendations

- Add a health sciences careers option (to be offered in Spring 2008).
- Add a liberal arts sampler course. (Pilot is under consideration.)

Implementation

- Expand the Learning Communities and Themed Learning Communities programs.
- Build the sampler course concept into Learning Communities and Themed Learning Communities.
- Review, revise, and strengthen the University College Learning Community template to incorporate issues related to career planning and diversity.
- Use the Internet to improve and expand career and major information prior to orientation, during orientation, and beyond.
- Work with the Office of Service Learning, alumni mentors, the Career Center, and others to expand opportunities and develop externships with community partners.
- Provide strategies and professional development to faculty and advisors to enable them to offer career development help to students.
- Increase funding to support these initiatives.

(Revised October 28, 2007)