

The Offices of the Dean of Students (ODOS) at the UW-Madison

March 2008

Our Mission:

- To cultivate, advance and interconnect the academic, professional, personal and social development of students and
- To champion a respectful, globally engaged and diverse campus community.

Our Vision: To be the campus leader in inspiring students to live the Wisconsin Idea.

Strategic Priorities:

- **The Wisconsin Experience**– To define the undergraduate learning experience and outcomes and market the “Wisconsin Experience”. This includes building an opportunities list of campus programs and talking points for staff to share this information with others.

2007-2008 Plan:

1. Implement the Wisconsin Ambassador program
 2. Evaluate and increase the divisions understanding of the Wisconsin Experience
 3. Assess and document significant divisional programs that contribute to the Wisconsin Experience
- **Division and Campus Climate** – To be proactive in terms of building a positive climate in the division and on campus and addressing climate issues. This includes building relationships with academic departments, incorporating these ideals into the first year experience for all students, working with faculty to take the lead in the classroom, creating an advisory committee on hiring/training issues and highlighting and building upon the positive things that are happening here.

2007-2008 Plan:

1. Social Justice Sub group
 2. Academic Staff – search and screens, running an effective search, and sharing resources
 3. Student Worker Equity – roles and pay
 4. Classified Staff Climate- Professional development?
- **Assessment** – Cultivate commitment to assessment as a valued resource through creating a collaborative culture of systematic inquiry and evidence that supports student success and enacts the ODOS mission and vision.

2007-2008 Plan:

1. Conduct an ODOS baseline needs assessment: inventory current assessment processes, protocols, instruments and strategies; determine how well they are perceived to be operating; and solicit suggestions for improvements and/or new initiatives.
2. Based upon the information and insights that emerge, determine what kinds of assessment tools, trainings and other resources are needed (and in what format) throughout the division.
3. Based upon the above tasks, work with ODOS colleagues to create a core set of common assessment items that all ODOS units will build upon and beyond, for example, to solicit constituency satisfaction and feedback for improvement and responsive innovation.

- **Partnerships** – To identify new and build upon existing partnerships on and off campus. This includes finding faculty excited about partnering with ODOS units, identifying mechanisms that work on a decentralized campus and developing a resource webpage.

2007-2008 Plan:

1. Develop and define the best practices for establishing and maintaining partnerships.
 2. Develop a Partners focused newsletter.
 3. Identify and move forward on critical partnerships at the Division and Unit level.
 - a. Specifically reach out to Admissions as a Division Partner.
 - b. Develop a focused list of academic partnerships of a critical need.
 4. Develop a Conflict Resolution model to deal with conflict with campus/internal partners.
- **Nurture Human Resources** – To recognize the achievements of staff members within ODOS and also successes of the division. This includes general celebrations, scholarship & professional development, utilization of the ODOS Voices Newsletter and creating a recognizable icon for the division.

2007-2008 Plan:

1. Lunch with the Dean
2. ODOS Awards Ceremony
3. ODOS Picnic
4. ODOS Kudo's
5. Welcome Committee
6. Professional Development Grant Process/Brown Bags
7. Conference Connections Celebrations
8. Create an icon for the division

Wisconsin Experience:

Built on:

- A belief that what we do matters
- Together, a group of diverse voices can solve just about any problem

Components:

1. Research opportunities
2. Global and cultural competencies
3. Leadership and activism opportunities
4. Volunteering & service learning

Challenges:

1. Heightened concern for safety and security
2. Funding
3. Space