

Student Affairs

#6 Plan cycle - 6 Plan cycle 2020/2021 7/1/20 - 6/30/21

Introduction

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The mission of the Office of Student Affairs is to promote student development through engagement in extracurricular activities and leadership development, experiential residence life programming, student support services, and civic responsibility. The Office of Student Affairs supports the University's core value of student success and contributes to instilling within students a sense of ethical responsibility and civic engagement. Personnel in the Office of Student Services, Career and Student Development Center, Counseling Center, Student Health Services, and University Police under the framework of Student Affairs, collaborate with key units in academic and administrative divisions and departments of the University to strengthen the culture of learning and improve the quality of co-curricular life on the campus.

Performance Objective 1 Provide for the safety and security of students on campus.

1 Assessment and Benchmark

Benchmark: Increase student awareness of campus safety and security issues (Clery Act).

1.1 Data

2016-2017:

- Education sessions for students and parents continue in Orientation with frank discussion in both schedules.
- The Counseling Center is now the nexus for information regarding Clery and provides multiple resources.
- Poster campaign has been implemented in housing for incoming students.

2017-2018:

- Dr. Thomas is continuing his frank discussions with all incoming students regarding alcohol/drugs and sexual assault with positive feedback from students.
- Counseling Center has expanded its role with the CORE Alcohol and Drug Survey for the campus and in the region.
- Everfi raised their price so we discontinued them. We are now with Class Climate, and Mr. Nicholas has taken over this training and expanded it to include all students.
- Poster campaign will continue again this year and will be redesigned next year. We have received positive feedback from the campus community about the presence and message of the posters around campus.

2018-2019:

- With the creation of the division of student affairs, Dean Nicholas took over this talk with freshmen at orientation but the frank discussion continued.
- Counseling Center continues to work with IRE to disseminate and analyze the CORE data and programs accordingly.
- Dean Nicholas purchased training software through 3rd Millennium for alcohol, drugs, and sexual assault. We have also added hazing as another mandatory training for all students.
- Poster campaign for this year speaks to the process of reporting and supporting victims of sexual assault and/or abuse. This is an extension of our consent campaign.

2019-2020:

- Dean Nicholas continues his frank discussion at all orientations, freshmen, transfer, nontraditional etc. The expectations and tone are set with all incoming students.
- Counseling Center continues to work with IRE to disseminate and analyze the CORE data and programs accordingly.
- We utilize training software through Everfi for alcohol, drugs, and sexual assault. We also have hazing as another mandatory training for all students in compliance with new state law.
- Poster campaign for this year speaks to the different kinds of reporting (mandatory, confidential) helping complainants to understand their rights during the process. It also offers information on supporting victims of sexual assault and/or abuse. This is a continuation and extension of our "consent campaign."
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2020-2021:

- Dean Nicholas was able to have his frank discussion in persona at all orientations, freshmen, transfer, nontraditional etc. The expectations and tone are set with all incoming students.
- Counseling Center continues to work with IRE to disseminate and analyze the CORE data and programs accordingly.
- We utilize training software through Everfi for alcohol, drugs, and sexual assault. We also have hazing as another mandatory training for all students in compliance with new state law. Orientation credit was tied to the completion of this training and it helping improve compliance numbers.
- Poster campaign was held over from last year since so few students we able to be on campus in Fall /Spring. This poster will go through this year and be updated/replaced in 21-22.

1.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement

2016-2017:

- The institution continues to fully implement all aspects of the Clery Act due to the complexity of compliance and the multiple areas involved.
- University Services, in conjunction with Housing & University Police, are working to create a more comprehensive approach to education and risk reduction through collaborative programs, cost sharing, and teamwork.
- University Services has created a student portal link to a variety of resources for students in a centralized location. This has been in place since fall 2016.

2017-2018:

- McNeese continues to fully comply with the Clery Act and improve its programs and services offered to education the campus.
- Units across campus, including this office, University Police, Housing, Greek Life, Athletics, and Inclusive Excellence, work together to create a safe environment.
- Hiring a new police chief is also expected to assist in creating partnerships, improving relationships across campus, and bringing new parish resources to campus.

2018-2019:

- McNeese remains fully compliant with Clery. We have modified our speakers' times and locations to better serve our target populations.
- We continue to focus on cross-collaboration between multiple offices both on and off campus to expand service.
- The new police chief has been instrumental in creating a more cohesive environment both on and off campus.

2019-2020:

- McNeese remains fully compliant with Clery. We continue to host our speakers to the core groups, we have training for faculty, staff, and students, and we have continued active and passive programs.
- Our interaction with offices on and off campus help us with resources, training and educational opportunities for our campus community.
- Our police chief has helped to bridge the gap between our campus police and our surrounding agencies.

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2020-2021:

- McNeese continues to focus on Clery compliance. We had to switch to on-line speakers because of the hurricane but we did continue to host them with our core groups. The training is primarily on-line so it was not impacted by campus damage.
- Off campus resources were damaged by the storms so they were limited in what they were able to help us with resources, training and educational opportunities for our campus community.

2 Assessment and Benchmark

Benchmark: Utilize the Incident Management Team (IMT) to prepare for and manage incidents impacting campus safety and security.

2.1 Data

2017-2018:

- IMT has been restructured to its original intent with University Police, University Services, and Public Information.
- Dr. Thomas and Ms. Townsend are re-writing and updating the Campus Disaster Plan this summer (summer 2018).

2018-2019:

- The new structure for IMT has proven to be more effective as we have worked through multiple conflicts and incidents with better efficiency than in our past.
- We have made some progress on the hurricane plan and other parts of the manual, but we are still short of a comprehensive overhaul.

2019-2020:

 IMT was heavily utilized for the COVID-19 pandemic planning and execution across all areas of the campus. The core team was expanded to include student services, academics, and athletics as they were all impacted by the pandemic.

2020-2021:

 IMT was again incredibly important during this difficult year. Coming out of the spring semester of COVID-19 led into a student death, two hurricanes, an ice storm, and a flood impacting campus. IMT was at the forefront of all planning, response, and recovery for each of these unique disasters.

2.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement

2017-2018:

The hiring of a new police chief is expected to improve all aspects of campus safety and coordination.

2018-2019:

The new police chief has been instrumental in improving the perception of MPD both on and off campus. The absence of a safety officer has been problematic and was recommended to be replaced by the IMT. This is believed to help in improving overall campus safety. The emergency operation manual remains a "to-do" item, and we will continue to approach the project in sections in an effort to complete its overhaul.

2019-2020:

Police chief's local resource relationships came to the forefront in the Fall of 2020 in response to our first of four natural disasters. Our recovery would not have been possible with city, parish, and state resources.

2020-2021:

Again responding to multiple disasters demonstrated the cohesive strength of the IMT.