Undergraduate Co-Curricular Competencies
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Agenda

• Purpose of the project
• Define “co-curricular” competencies
• Update on ongoing project
• Provide examples and potential application
• Discuss applicability to your work
Goals and Purpose

• Identify co-curricular competencies for undergraduate students to inform practice and enhance accountability

• Develop common standards for program development, assessment and university reaffirmation of accreditation

• Unify multiple university-level guiding documents
Accreditation

- Multiple criteria require demonstration of student learning in the co-curricular environment.
- Ohio State currently drafting assurance argument for the 2017 re-accreditation site visit.
- Universal competencies and corresponding assessment plan is a strategic response.
Examples of Co-Curricular Criteria

3.C. The institution has the faculty and **staff** needed for **effective**, high-quality **programs and student services**.

6. **Staff** members providing student support services, such as tutoring, financial aid advising, academic advising, and **co-curricular** activities, are appropriately qualified, trained, and supported in their professional development.
Examples of Co-Curricular Criteria

3.E. The institution fulfills the claims it makes for an enriched educational environment.

1. Co-curricular programs are suited to the institution’s mission and contribute to the educational experience of its students.
4.B. The institution demonstrates a commitment to educational achievement and improvement through ongoing **assessment** of student learning.

1. The institution has **clearly stated goals** for student learning and effective processes for **assessment** of student learning and achievement of learning goals.

2. The institution **assesses achievement** of the **learning outcomes** that it claims for its curricular and **co-curricular** programs.

3. The institution **uses the information** gained from assessment to **improve student learning**.
Are these similar to General Education Outcomes?
Co-Curricular Learning Defined

- Non-credit-bearing programs and activities
- Provide students with opportunities to learn and develop skills through active participation
- Integrate and enhance the academic experience
- Distinct from General Education Outcomes
- Though co-curricular, not a curriculum
- Not proscribed
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History of the Project

**Summer 2013**  Identified need for centralized competencies

**Fall 2013**  Established committee to provide input/direction
Theme mapping conducted
Literature review conducted

**Spring 2014**  Feedback & Revisions
Draft proposal submitted to VPs

**Fall 2014**  Presented to CAA, CSA, CESP and ULAC

**Spring 2015**  Report feedback to VPs, continue meetings
Alignment and Guiding Documents

- **The Ohio State University Documents**: *The Student Success Outcomes, General Education Outcomes, OSU Values, Arts & Sciences General Education Goals and Expected Learning Outcomes*

- **National Documents**: *Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS) Learning and Development Outcomes, Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) VALUE Rubrics*
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Alignment and Guiding Documents

Peer Institution Documents:

- University of Wisconsin Essential Learning Outcomes
- Penn State First-Year Learning Outcomes and Competencies
- University of Minnesota Outcomes of Undergraduate Education
- University of Virginia Undergraduate Competencies
Proposed Competencies

1. Communication
2. Critical thinking and Problem Solving
3. Information Literacy
4. Ethical and Moral Reasoning
5. Global Citizenship and Civic Engagement
6. Interpersonal Engagement
7. Self-Efficacy and Self-Awareness
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Next Steps

- Respond to CAA, CSA, CESP, ULAC feedback
- Continue work with Academic Affairs and faculty leaders
- Identify key individuals/units for dialogue
- Raise awareness through broad outreach
- Design implementation structure
- Develop assessment plan
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Competencies and Your Work

• How does your office’s activity map to these?

• How might this look different for units who don’t provide traditional co-curricular services?
Discussion and Questions:

What would make this a stronger proposal?