Integration of the Student Experience

August 24, 2022
Richard Ice, Provost
Disruption in Higher Education
Change and Focus on Student Outcomes

- “Residential liberal arts colleges will persist as they have since the founding of the very first American college but in substantially reduced numbers owing to demographics and finances. This assumes the liberal arts are updated as they have been throughout history to provide the education contemporary students and society need.”

- The academic heart of the college will be the learning outcomes or competencies—skills, knowledge, and attitudes—students are required to demonstrate.
“There has never been a time when all students enrolled in college were academically prepared, when no students required additional support to promote their college success, or when the transition from high school to college was seamless for all students”

“A student-ready college is one that strategically and holistically advances student success, and works tirelessly to educate all students for civic and economic participation in a global, interconnected society.”
“The twenty-first century will become a Golden Age of learning.” [use of technology; new opportunities for student engagement; students empowered to learn at their own pace and style; universities become centers for innovation; increased diversity and inclusion] “[T]he new university where all this and much more is possible, is within our grasp. What we must do to make it a reality is to pivot.”

Pivoting requires a new strategy, rather than moving from operations to strategy to pivot, but in times of great transition it moves in reverse, enabling universities to leapfrog over small, incremental steps making bold changes happen quickly.
Academic Program Prioritization

- Respond to the enrollment challenges
- Identify a strategic balance with an appropriate level of programming
- Keep CSB/SJU competitive in the future higher education marketplace
- Financial equilibrium and sustainability
- Encourage academic program innovation and creativity that builds on our strengths
- Provost is taking steps in response to the report
- President and Provost will be at the
President Bruess Challenges Us To Work Together

- In new and innovative ways
- To develop an increasingly more sophisticated student experience
- To enhance the curriculum and co-curriculum for the singular purpose of human flourishing
- To renew and further enrich the learning environments
- We have the opportunity and responsibility of creating in ways that produce even greater, more impactful outcomes
President Bruess Identified Four Emerging Themes

- Mission-based unity and shared purpose
- Vibrant and Robust Student Experience
- Financial Equilibrium and Operational Excellence
- Partnerships, community engagement, and reputational strength
“Dedicated to preparing students to reach their fullest potential by fostering integrated learning experiences”
Our Promise: Learning Occurs In And Outside The Classroom

Embody the skills and attributes of personal and professional success

Think critically, creatively, and with complexity when addressing significant questions

Observe life from as many points of view as possible

Discover a meaningful life purpose through service and leadership

Embark on a journey of discovery and take part in the world

SERVE GRACIOUSLY

ENGAGE GLOBALLY

LIVE COURAGEOUSLY

THINK DEEPLY
Our Commitment and Work Towards Our Five Institutional Learning Goals

- Integrations Curriculum
- Program and Curriculum Innovation
- Student Success outside the classroom
  - Co-curricular (Internships, Study Abroad, Undergraduate Research, Service Learning, Leadership in Clubs and Organizations, Student Employment, Residential Life)
  - Maturation and growth
- Transformative
- Inclusive
Walk Into Our Two Libraries
EXPERIENCE HUB
Integration of the Student Experience

- Focus on student learning
- Common learning goals
- Unified strategy: purposeful and intentional
  - Improved student outcomes
  - Improved student engagement
  - Improved retention
- Value proposition and distinctiveness
- Responsibilities and outcomes clarified
- Holistic and inclusive
Way Forward

- Pivoting
- Student-centered change
- Moving forward with Academic Program Prioritization
- Engaging Credo for reimagining the student experience
- Community identifies key elements of the student experience
- Visioning for the future of CSB and SJU
- Foundation for the next strategic plan to propel us forward
Credo

- Credo is a national leader in higher education
- Focus on student learning and engagement
- Partnering to guide us through identifying and implementing the best strategy to enhance the student experience at CSB and SJU
- Dr. Joretta Nelson is a national leader in student success
- Student success is linked to deepening student engagement
Academic Program Prioritization

Academic program prioritization will be used to identify a strategic balance with an appropriate level of programming that meets the following goals:

- Positions CSB/SJU to be leaders in liberal arts education by providing students with education opportunities to meet our key general education learning outcomes and institutional learning goals.
- Makes CSB/SJU forward-thinking and supportive of the ongoing needs of our students into the future.
- Keeps CSB/SJU competitive in the future higher education marketplace.
- Allows for institutional financial sustainability within academic affairs but also nimbleness and flexibility.
- Maintains a 12:1 student faculty ratio.
- Develops an institutional structure that encourages academic program innovation and creativity that builds on our strengths.
- Focuses on our priorities and strengths, and not trying to be everything to everyone.
Steps Taken Since The Release of The APP Report

- Consulted with the president
- Shared the report with the boards
- Consulted with the deans and leadership in Academic Affairs
- Met with faculty leadership to discuss the process
- Consulted with faculty governance committees (APBC and CCAPS)
- Consulted with the leadership team
- Consulting with departments and department chairs in those programs that were recommended to be reduced or eliminated
- Shared the report with monastic communities and the corporate members
Specific Actions Provost Has Taken From The Report

- Appointed faculty to lead with the development Cultural and Identity Studies and Global Studies
- Charged the dean of the faculty with evaluating the current course schedule
- Engaged HR in formulating recommendations for retirement incentives
- Charged the deans in Academic Affairs to review department chair reassignments and department coordinator assignments
- Charged the interim dean of curriculum and assessment to continue reviewing the Integrations Curriculum with the appropriate faculty governance committees