

Applied Learning Initiative Committee

Minutes for Thursday 12/14/2023

Welcome and Updates

 Maggie provided agenda for the day and encouraged Kerri to provide context on the definition drafts.

Work on Definitions of Applied Learning

Kerri:

- Initially, SUNY was the body we hoped to look to for a definition of Applied Learning, but found that the Blake definition was more accurate for the direction we hope to go.
 - Open discussion showed that members of the core team liked the cyclical aspect of the new definition, but were afraid that we were leaving out the assessment piece, and concerned that the new definition was not distinct from other forms of learning.
 - Dean Tolar mentioned that we need to consider how we will explain to campus why we chose to consult the bodies reflected in our definition.
 - If this program or initiative is to be signature to K-State, we need to consider the impact on buy-in and perception of utilizing one source verbatim.
 - Discussion was help surrounding why we are calling this push, "Applied Learning." Does this sound similar to initiatives hosted by institutions which are not considered peer or aspirational colleagues? There are also few pedagogical theories which explicitly address applied learning. Bodies of knowledge we look to refer to our work as engaged or experiential learning.
- The definition of Internship has been discussed at length with

Brent:

- He aimed to create a definition from best practices in the field, the office's mission statement, and to focus on a non-granular definition.
- Concern was raised on potential redundancy in including internships and service-learning, but
 Brent discussed the need for the inclusion of these in the re-branding of Education Abroad from
 Study Abroad. This led to discussion regarding what experiences within education abroad

Action Steps

- Systems for placing language out to the community for comment:



- Writing a letter in K-State Today and opening a Qualtrics Survey with open-ended questions.
- What parallel groups do we want to solicit comment from before an all-university announcement?
 - Office of Engagement advisory board
 - Student ambassador groups
 - Maggie to create and distribute a brainstorming document
- Dean Tolar hopes to have community-wide definitions by the end of January for comment. Grant opportunities to go out before Spring Break, end of February.
- Tracking Mechanisms
 - o Brent shared information in the agenda on tracking using Terra Dotta
 - o Beth shared that Jim Hoenberry has a system for tracking Undergraduate Research

Next Meeting:

- Finalizing Definitions
- Discussing Tracking Mechanisms
- Assigning teams for comment processing