1. REVIEW OF THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Academic Program Development Plan will be reviewed.

Bennett  Present

1108 LRP Attachment A - New Program Development Plan - Page 2

2. REPORT ON LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Jeff Thomas, academic coordinator of the Living Learning Communities, and Laurie Berry, director of Residence Life, will present a report titled USI Living Learning Communities: Helping Students Connect and Succeed.

Bennett  Present

1108 LRP Presentation on Living Learning Communities - Page 3
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Associate Degree</th>
<th>Baccalaureate Degree</th>
<th>Graduate Degree</th>
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USI Living Learning Communities: Helping Students Connect and Succeed

Laura Berry, Director of Residence Life
Jeff Thomas, Academic Coordinator
Do some students experience a rather “flat” freshman year?
USI can foster programs that navigate toward a positive system for our students
Without such systems a stagnant to negative trend of student disconnect and longing for home might occur
Creating dynamic freshman level programs may promote a sense of engagement and feeling of home for a first-year student.

Dynamic experience that combines residential and academic programming.
Living Learning Community Definition

A residential education floor based on an academic unit or general theme that is to integrates academic learning and community living.

USI has 7 existing LLCs: nursing and health professions, honors, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics), business, emerging leaders, education and global communities.
Incoming freshmen with similar interests, goals, and academic programs can apply to be placed on designated floors within Ruston Hall.
Students take 3 courses together during each term of their freshman year

Students participate in programs linked to a theme of their freshman year
Intentional Links

• LLCs help students create a strong link between their lives in the residence hall and learning experiences in the classroom.

Pippa Cunningham, former LLC student and RA
Bonding through Books program

• Students are mailed a copy of a book that is usually coordinated with the Evansville One Book, One Community program.

• Meet weekend before school for a luncheon and book discussion

• Book used in first semester courses along with authors as guest speakers
Faculty participation

To date more than 25 faculty have taught in the LLC program with projects like:

- Studying the impact of health care & insurance coverage
- Preparing nutrition presentations for local K-8 classrooms
- Working in afternoon school programs
- Writing essays about student beliefs for a campus-wide competition
Positive Results

Analysis into LLC students versus non LLC students indicates significant positive differences for LLC students in:

- Campus participation in student clubs
- The amount of time spent studying
- The amount of contact with teaching faculty
- Retention to the sophomore year

Results gathered via USI Assessment Day data
1-Year Retention of First-Time Students

Percent of Cohort Retained 1-Year

Fall Semester Cohort

- Fall 02
- Fall 03
- Fall 04
- Fall 05
- Fall 06

Living Learning Community
Other On-Campus Residents
Commuter Students
Participation in LLCs is increasing as a percent of the total freshman class.

- 3.9% in 2003
- 5.77% in 2005
- 7.1% in 2007
Student Quotes

• “Living together allows us to become closer and help each other succeed.”

• “When you live with your classmates, group studying becomes as easy as walking next door and opening up your notes.”
Programming

🔥 Skating for a cancer fund raiser

🔥 Making liquid nitrogen ice cream
Safe Halloween Night

• On Halloween night LLC wings put together a safe way for local children in the community to trick-or-treat.
United Nations Children’s Day

• LLC students teach lessons at a local school about living as a 10-year old in different countries
International Nights

Each week the Global Community sponsors a different international night themed program.
Expansion Plans 2009

Additional Living Learning Communities

• Liberal Arts
• Social Work
• Exploring Majors
• Sophomore Year Experience