LAGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

MOTTO: “PROVIDING HELP AND HOPE FOR STUDENTS”

History and Evolution of Student Affairs

October 2010
Purposes For the Workshop

- Dispel Myth
- Correct misperception
- Increase understanding of the origin of Student Affairs
- Provide insight into various roles and functions of Student Affairs Professionals
History and Evolution

- US invention
- Began in the 19th century and
- Became a 20th century phenomenon
History and Evolution

The Beginning: Early 1600’s – Early 1900’s

- Emerged with the creation of the colonial residential colleges (modeled from Oxford and Cambridge Universities)

- Development of land-grant institutions (Morril Act of 1862 & 1890)
History and Evolution of Student Affairs (Cont’d)

- Development of public colleges and universities (John Hopkins University)
- Rise in coeducation and the increase in numbers of women
History and Evolution
Student Affairs

- Rapidly growing heterogeneous student population needing assistance in other than curricular matters
- Institutions becoming more complex, new types of students, changing expectations, and new services
History and Evolution
Student Affairs (Philosophy)

Colonial Residential Colleges

- Students needed to be housed and fed
- Paternalistic Faculty assumed the role of parent (Loco Parentis)
- Faculty were responsible for the academic and social dimensions of students
History and Evolution of Student Affairs (Philosophy)

- Faculty focused on moral development, building character and ensuring responsible future leaders

- Faculty began shifting their focus to training of the student (German Model)
History and Evolution (Philosophy)

- Staff were hired to reduce the faculty’s burden of managing students, the “unpleasant duties”

- Beginning of the divide between faculty and student personnel
History and Evolution of Student Affairs

The Birth of a Profession: 1900-WW II

- Student Personnel Movement
  *Resulted from the changes in the purpose of the institutions, faculty’s roles and responsibilities, and in the type of students*
- New organizational structure
- New professional organizations
The Birth of a Profession: 1900-WW II (Cont’d)

- American Council on Education appointed a committee to study student personnel practices in colleges and universities

- 1937-ACE published The Student Personnel Point of View

- Report emphasizes the importance of considering the student as a whole
The Birth of a Profession: 1900-WW II (Cont’d)

- Identified 23 specific functions that should be in the job description of student personnel professionals

- Recommendations for Student Personnel Professionals:

  * Understand the individual needs of students
  * Coordination of the function of programs and management
  * Synergy between the programs and the unique mission of the institution
The Birth of a Profession: 1900-WW II (Cont’d)

- 1949- Revised “The Student Personnel Point of View”
- Emphasizes of importance of including student growth and development, administrative, organizing, and governance issues
- Development of graduate study for student personnel practitioners
History and Evolution of Student Affairs

- Activism and demand for access: 1945-1975
- GI Bill
- Change in social policy through federal legislation
- Demise of loco parentis-court struck down this concept
History and Evolution
Student Affairs

1960’s

- Significant changes in Student Affairs - Vietnam War, Civil Rights, Women’s Rights
- Organizational structure changes - proliferation of the Vice President for Student Affairs positions
- Rise of the student consumer or contractual model
History and Evolution
Student Affairs

- From Personnel to Student Development
  - Emergence of student development theory
    - Chickering Seven Vectors of Development
    - Cross Model of African American Identity
    - Helm’s Model of White Identity
    - Tinto’s Model of Student Engagement
    - Astin Model of Input/Output
  - New role: Student Development Educator
    - responsible for the affective and cognitive domains of students
History and Evolution
Student Affairs

- Unintended Consequences
  - Student Affairs Personnel blamed for campus unrest
  - Tension between faculty and Student Affairs Professional regarding resources
History and Evolution
Student Affairs

- 1990’s - Call for Accountability

- 1994 - ACPA’s The Student Learning Imperative
  - Implications for Student Affairs

- Student Learning Goals and Outcomes
  - This paradigm was built to narrow chasm between Academic Affairs and Student Affairs
History and Evolution
Student Affairs

The Future

Where To?

THANK YOU
WE ARE STUDENT AFFAIRS!
Registrar
Student Life
Disabled Student Programs
Educational Planning
International Student Services
Ombudsman
Testing
Student Services
Financial Aid
Early Childhood Learning Center
Generalist
References


Contact Information

Dr. Marcia Caton

email: mcaton@lagcc.cuny.edu

Do not reproduce this content without permission from the author.