

**Penn State Lehigh Valley Feedback towards Strategies 1.6, 3.3, and 3.4 for
Academic Leadership Council of Penn State University**

June 21, 2011

***Strategy 1.6:**

Assist Students to Explore Ethical Issues in Their Professional and Personal Lives

--Aligns with PSLV Goal 7: Continue to focus our teaching, research, and service efforts towards public work that benefits and preserves the common good of our democratic society.

--Aligns with Strategic Initiative 4.3: Continue to develop and provide student-centered programs and services to meet the demands of a diverse population

- In Fall 2009, the Lehigh Valley campus added a new minor program, Community and Civic Engagement (CIVCM), to its academic offerings, aligned with The Laboratory for Public Scholarship and Democracy at Penn State University. The minor requires students to take 18 credits, including the foundation course which provides students with an orientation to public scholarship and explores contemporary themes and issues, including “the ethical habits and practices of citizenship” (publicscholarship.psu.edu). Additional courses cover topics such as globalization practices, community service, and personal leadership. In Spring 2011, the CIVCM Minor sponsored an alternative spring break service trip to Costa Rica where nine PSLV students explored the Fair Trade Movement, including the ethics of business practices and Fair Trade certification for international farms and businesses. See Strategy 3.3 below for more info.
- A component of Academic Integrity has been built into FTCAP orientation.
- Workshops have been presented to new faculty regarding expectations and the Penn State process of maintaining Academic Integrity; all faculty have been encouraged to incorporate a discussion of plagiarism into syllabi.
- A section of “Ethics and Values in Communities” is now required as part of Freshman Year Experience course (HDFS287W).
- BA420 introduced a component entitled, “Ethical and legal Issues in Interviewing and Hiring.”
- A one-credit course in Business Ethics was developed and will be offered for the first time in Fall 2011.

--Aligns with PSLV Initiative 7.4: Support initiatives in the area of sports ethics promoting the personal development of youth

- The Lehigh Valley campus began a new initiative in 2010 with the introduction of “Student Athlete Training for Local High School Students.” The outreach program, directed by the Office of Student Affairs, involved 55 student-athletes from various school districts and included 4 PSLV students who served as student-leaders. The training included discussions and workshops around the topics of ethical decision-making, leadership development, personal responsibility, and accountability. This training was

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part of a larger initiative directed by Dr. Doug Hochstetler, Associate Professor of Kinesiology, who has conducted research and brought in guest speakers to his classes to discuss the topic of ethics in youth sports.

- In April 2011, PSLV's Philosophy 003 is, "Persons, Moral Values, and the Good Life," taught by Dr. Doug Hochstetler, connected with the campus' SAGE (Senior Adults Gaining Enrichment) Program and invited SAGE members to present their perspectives on ethics and morality. The panel discussion allowed college students the opportunity to ask questions about how these adults developed their ideas and ethics on various issues. This offering was provided as a follow-up to Dr. Hochstetler's previous SAGE presentation, "The Examined Life: Ethical Decision-Making in the Twenty-First Century."

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***Strategy 3.3:**

Expand Opportunities for Education Abroad and International Visiting Scholars

--Aligns with PSLV Strategic Initiative 2.2: Develop and implement Study Abroad Programs

--Aligns with PSLV Strategic Initiative 2.3: Create learning communities or interdisciplinary course offerings and team teaching that include global perspectives across disciplines

--Aligns with PSLV Strategic Initiative 8.2: Investigate collaborations with international colleges for interdisciplinary/cultural education

- The Lehigh Valley campus has expanded its efforts to offer significant short-term international experiences for students and the larger Penn State community:
 - Business and Communications Studies in Beijing, China: In Spring 2011, two PSLV faculty members partnered to offer a new collaborative accelerated on-line class that brought together an International Business class (IB 303) and an Organizational Communication class (CAS 352) for six credits that culminated in a two-week trip to learn about Chinese business and communication practices at The Capitol University of Economics and Business in Beijing, China. Twenty students from the Lehigh Valley campus, University Park, and other PSU local campuses participated in the trip, which was supported by a \$2,500 grant from The Penn State University Office of Global Programs. The course incorporated the use of Elluminate Live, a web conferencing program, to connect with an American currently living and working in China and featured Dr. Kathleen Lodwick, and expert in Chinese history, as a guest speaker. The China trip was captured in blog form by PSLV student D. Samuel Green '13:
<http://expressstudyabroadchina.wordpress.com>

**Penn State Lehigh Valley Feedback towards Strategies 1.6, 3.3, and 3.4 for
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June 21, 2011

- CHANCE in Costa Rica, Panama, and China: Since 2004, the annual CHANCE (Connecting Humans and Nature through Conservation Experiences) Program, a partnership between Penn State Lehigh Valley and the U.S. Department of Education, has provided educational outreach and professional development to educate Penn State undergraduates and k-12 science teachers and their students in conservation biology and global environmental sustainability. CHANCE has allowed students to travel to Costa Rica and Panama while taking a biology course with a biodiversity theme. In 2010, the CHANCE program expanded to include an option for students to travel to China (via the Office of Chinese Languages Council International and a \$10,000 grant from the Confucius Institute at Penn State) for a seventeen-day experience. While in China, students engaged in two PSLV field courses taught jointly as “Environmental Concepts and Economic Principles” in connection with Jiangnan University in Shanghai. For more information, visit www.chance.psu.edu
- Civics and Fair Trade in Costa Rica: Based on the CHANCE model, the new CIVCOM (Civic and Community Engagement) minor sponsored a Spring 2011 service trip to Costa Rica where nine PSLV students studied at the La Selva Biological Station and focused on issues related to the environment and conservation (a partnering of CIVCM 211 and BIOL 22W). Upon their return, CIVCOM students hosted a “Fair Trade Awareness” event to share their experiences on international relations, economics, ethics, and supply chain. The service trip is expected to continue and expand as additional students enter the CIVCOM minor.
- Honors Student Trip to London: In Spring 2011, Honors students travelled to London for a week to explore the city and earn 1-2 credits while visiting historic sites. This was a follow-up to the 2009 London trip which also invited PSLV alumni to participate.
- A “Penn State Education Abroad Panel Discussion” was offered at the Lehigh Valley campus in January 2010 to introduce students to student abroad opportunities. The panel featured two PSU graduates, who shared their study abroad experiences, and a presentation by Dr. Peter Behrens, LV Liaison to Global Programs. The panel has served as a model for subsequent Study Abroad discussions, including the use of technology to exchange information, such as the blog about the Beijing, China trip as described above.
- PSLV’s Director of Academic Affairs participates in two University-wide international efforts:
 - Committee to study Embedded International Programs (report submitted to Board of Trustees)
 - Global Partnerships Conference Advisory Committee (planning on hold for Fall 2011 program due to budget uncertainty).

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***Strategy 3.4:**

Infuse International Topics and Experiences into Instruction

--Aligns with PSLV Strategic Initiative 8.2: Investigate collaborations with international colleges for interdisciplinary/cultural education

- See Strategy 3.3 description above for more information about the infusion of guest speakers, web conferencing, blogging, and international experiences into PSLV courses.

--Aligns with PSLV Initiative 2.6: Enhance campus lecture series to address global perspectives

The Lehigh Valley campus has concentrated its efforts to involve more global perspectives and topics in campus lectures and panel presentations, including:

- Faculty Forum Series sponsored by the Research and Scholarship Committee hosted the following:
 - Dr. Tai-Yin Huang shared research around the topic “Atmospheric Airglow”; originally presented at the National Cheng Keng University in Taiwan
 - Dr. Julie Ealy presented, “A Research Avenue to the Prevention of HIV”
- Faculty Lecture Series hosted Dr. Michael Katzman from Hershey Medical Center to present, “Retroviral Integrase” about his research into infectious disease
- Panel Events featuring faculty, students, and alumni were held as part of Dr. Parker Talwar’s research with OLEAD students:
 - “The Immigration Journey to the United States: Perspectives on personal experiences and professional trajectories of those from India, Kenya, and Iraq”
 - “Women, Work, and the Household: Personal accounts of different models, diverse family structures, and changing labor markets in the past century”

--Aligns with PSLV Strategic Initiative 2.13: Increase opportunities for students to participate in projects and educational events related to diversity and globalization

- An International Workshop was introduced as part of New Student Orientation; 35 students attended, with growth in attendance expected in 2011. The workshop included information about study abroad options, international experiences of PSLV students, and multicultural topics.
- LV Faculty Senate plans to introduce a year by year global campus focus on a particular country
- FYE course (HDFS287W) incorporates global connections to ethnicity as students present various foods as a way of sharing family international backgrounds

**Penn State Lehigh Valley Feedback towards Strategies 1.6, 3.3, and 3.4 for
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- The Lehigh Valley campus uses data to gauge student's satisfaction with the extent to which faculty included diversity/multicultural perspectives in their class presentations, assignments, or discussion. Student survey data showed an increase in satisfaction from 69% (2007) to 71% (2010).

--Aligns with PSLV Initiative 2.9: Increase private and grant funding for programs that can offer global perspectives for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the community

- The Lehigh Valley campus is in year 4 of the MODEL (Modular Design for English Language Learners grant, a federally-funded program with funding from the US Dept. of Education, Office of English Language Acquisition, to work with local school districts, teachers, and the Lehigh Valley Writing Project to help prepare teachers to work with English language learners in today's multicultural, multilingual classrooms. To-date, the grant has served over 115 in-service and 19 pre-service teachers. The total of this grant is \$1.3 million.
- PSLV's Continuing Education Department received a subcontract from the Allentown Housing Authority totaling over \$600,000 to operate a Neighborhood Network Center to offer a diverse range of programming to serve the Penn State and the local community through a grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Connections to the latest technology, including Polycom technology, increase the potential to offer global-based programming and additional courses, workshops, and presentations regarding global perspectives.

--Aligns with PSLV Strategic Initiative 4.5: Acquire additional space dedicated to arts and cultural events and series

- In September 2010, the Penn State Lehigh Valley campus officially opened the Gallery at Penn State Lehigh Valley, located on the third floor of the new campus in Center Valley. The gallery's mission is to supplement students' in-classroom experiences by bringing exposure to the fine and visual arts, including a focus on international and multicultural topics for students, faculty and staff, alumni, and the community. The Gallery has hosted several events to-date, including:
 - A 2010 Gallery Exhibit entitled "Common Reading, Uncommon Learning" through which PSLV students shared their perspectives on various novels through multimedia displays, including interactive digital posters representing the plight of refugees from the readers of "Outcasts United" by Warren St. John.
 - A Featured Artist Exhibit by the Lehigh Art Alliance, which was founded in 1935 to serve as a cultural and educational entity for the Lehigh Valley area.
 - The Art Behind the Instruction: Artists who Teach at Penn State Lehigh Valley" was held to showcase the creativity of academic disciplines beyond the traditional arts.