

Grassroots Community

Student Activation, Leadership and Relational Connection in Response to a New Medical School Advisory Program

Satish Misra, Mark Bicket, Robert Schochet, MD
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Background

Students faced with intense curriculum

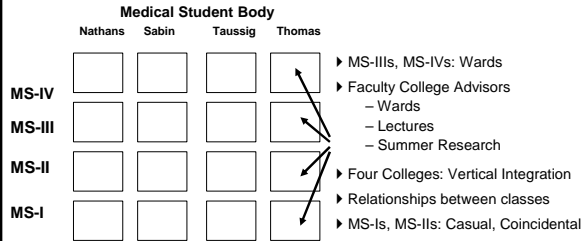
- ▶ Impacts personal, social well-being
- ▶ Other leadership activities already exist
- ▶ Leadership in organizations largely held by second-years and first-years, while third and fourth years are engrossed in clinical/research activities

Colleges Advisory Program—2005

- ▶ Initially created as a concrete way to develop relationships with faculty
- ▶ The student community lacked vertical integration



Background: Community Structure



Background

- Current Environment ▶ keys to activation

- ▶ Students – very active first-year class with strong connections to several active upperclassmen
- ▶ Faculty – advising structure lends well to...
 - Vertical mentorship relationships
 - Faculty-student community
- ▶ School
 - Substantial investment in redefining medical education at JHUSOM

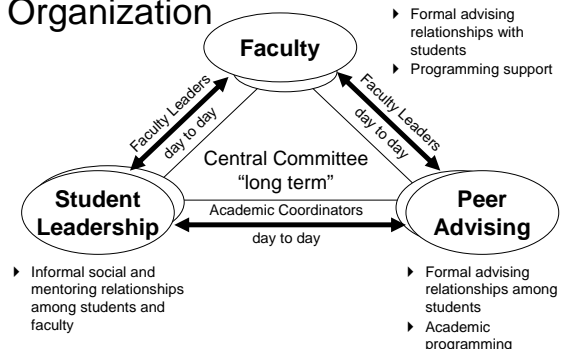


Program Description

- ▶ Background: grass-roots student committee began development in June 2007
- ▶ Goal: Build leadership structure and identity oriented around vertical integration of student body
 - Build sense of College identity through programming around ritual and celebratory activities
 - Informal cross-class relationships to benefit all students involved



Organization



Boyer's Vision of Collegiate Community



Boyer, E. *In Search of Community*, 1990.
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Program Description

College Leadership Committee Structure

- ▶ Student
- ▶ Faculty

- ▶ Co-Chairs
- ▶ Class Representatives
- ▶ Historian
- ▶ Treasurer
- ▶ Academic Coordinator
- ▶ Potential Positions:
 - Social Coordinator
 - Service Coordinator
 - Athletics Coordinator
- ▶ Faculty Chair



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Program Description

Events

- ▶ Milestones
- ▶ Tradition

Symbols

- ▶ First-Year Orientation
- ▶ First-Year Induction Ceremony
- ▶ Colleges Bowl
- ▶ End-of-Anatomy Celebration
- ▶ End-of-Basic Science Celebration
- ▶ Match Day Celebration
- ▶ Graduation Celebration
- ▶ White Coat Ceremony Celebration
- ▶ College Shields



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Program Evaluation



Conduct 1st mtg
Continue meeting in spring

End-of-Anatomy Celebration

End-of-Basic Science Celebration
Match Day Celebration
Graduation Celebration
White Coat Ceremony

Student Satisfaction:
▶ MSS Biannual Survey
▶ Student Opinion Survey

Quality of Care:
▶ Professionalism
▶ Relationship development with colleagues



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Discussion

- Challenges
 - ▶ College autonomy vs. standardization
 - ▶ Fracturing Student Body
- Opportunities
 - ▶ Faculty support leadership, mentoring
 - ▶ Energetic MS-Is buying into program



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Discussion

- Principles of Programming
 - ▶ School-wide celebration of class-specific transitions
 - ▶ Ample opportunity for vertical interactions

Key Point: Informal, no-pressure relationships

Stewart RW, Barker AR, Schochet RB, Wright SM. *Med Teach*. 2007 May;29(4):353-7. The new and improved learning community at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine resembles that at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

Boyer, E. *In Search of Community*, 1990.



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