

## INTRODUCTION

The Co-Curricular Experience Task Group was charged with focusing “on the elements of the co-curricular experience with the ideal that these experiences should provide all students with a solid foundation to support continued success.” The task force was also asked to balance our work based on “the needs of those students who are most likely to leave the university before graduating.”

To accomplish our charge, our task group first identified and discussed the grand successes and challenges that exist across campus within the area of co-curricular experiences. Our team identified five focus areas to drive our work forward. To streamline our work process, we formed five separate working groups with each member serving on at least two groups to foster cross-pollination of ideas that affect multiple focus areas. The co-chairs also served on two working groups to also ensure the sharing of ideas and information across the working groups as well as with the broader SSI team. Our five focus areas are as follows:

**Mental health and well-being:** We know through data and commentary from students, faculty and staff that the number of students requiring attention due to mental health concerns is rising. What can be done to address this and help students learn to cope with the stresses of college and the world today?

**Career readiness & professional development:** Identify strategies to help students engage in co-curricular experiences to increase their competencies, knowledge, and skills which will augment their in-classroom experiences and better prepare them for the world of work and their career.

**Streamline and improve access to information and campus resources:** Use coordinated efforts to streamline and enhance faculty, staff, and student access to university information and resources, including activities and resources surrounding co-curricular experiences.

**Belonging, community, and inclusiveness:** Identify strategies to improve students’ sense of being accepted, valued, included, and encouraged by others in the curricular and co-curricular spaces in our campus community.

**Finances:** Reduce financial barriers that affect or prevent students from fully engaging in co-curricular experiences during their time on campus.

This report presents a summary of the strategies and recommendations put forth by each focus area. The impact of the coronavirus pandemic was incorporated in the work done across all the focus areas and where applicable is reflected in the recommendations outlined by each focus area.