Academic Outreach & Engagement

Report to President’s Cabinet
November 19, 2013
Boardroom: Earl S. Richardson Library

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The Division of Outreach and Engagement submitted a comprehensive cluster proposal for the Morgan State University Center for Adult and Urban Educational Services. This Center includes the Maryland Center for Adult Education and Workforce Development, the Center for English as a Second Language and Translation Services, and the Center for Community Service, Educational Talent Search and Upward Bound Federal Trio Programs. The proposal recommends that this cluster of Morgan outreach and engagement centers be located in the Samuel Gompers building at 1701 East North Avenue on the corner of North and Broadway which would be appropriately renovated to include: the cost of the physical renovation of the facility; the basic cost of programming for (i.e., faculty, staff, equipment; and “endowment” for maintenance of the Samuel Gompers Complex; and, ongoing support for security services.

Dr. Maurice C. Taylor served as a the Moderator of a panel of professionals from the District of Columbia, the City of Richmond, Virginia, and George Washington and Towson Universities on Measuring the Impact of service learning and civic engagement programs. The panel was part of the Maryland-DC Campus Compact 2013 Presidents’ Institute held at The George Washington University October 30, 2013. Dr. Taylor also facilitated a round-table discussion with officials from Gallaudet University, Prince George’s Community College, American University, and Chesapeake College.

Dr. Taylor published a response to the commentary entitled “Antiquated ruling on desegregation” that appeared in the Sunday, October 27, 2013, Sun paper. Dr. Taylor’s commentary entitled “Inequality and HBCUs - - a Cliffs Notes Version” was published November 13, 2013, in the AFRO and on line at:

http://www.afro.com/sections/opinion/commentary/story.htm?storyid=80378#.UoUFsJ7dP8.email
Bernard Osher Foundation

The Bernard Osher Reentry Scholarship Program funded by a $1 Million dollar endowment from the Bernard Osher Foundation based in California and managed by the Center for Continuing and Professional Studies is supporting twenty-three (23) part-time and full-time students, ages 25 to 50 for the 2013-2014 academic year. To date, 25 Osher scholars have graduated from MSU and are currently employed or attending graduate school.

Continuing Education Units (CEUs)

During the fall 2013 semester, the Center provided CEUs for the American Contract Compliance Association’s (ACCA) 27th Annual Training Institute, August 20-25, 2013 in Baltimore, Maryland. The Training Institute registered over 300 participants, the largest number in the history of our partnership with ACCA. The Center also offered CEUs and professional development hours (PDHs) for the 18th Women of Color STEM Conference in Dallas, Texas, October 17-19, 2013. Approximately 80 participants earned CEUs or PDHs.

Non-Credit Classes

Five non-credit classes were offered during the 2013 fall semester including American Sign Language, Internet Social Networking, Creative Writing, Introduction to Genealogy, and The Business of Child Day Care. Ten non-credit classes are scheduled for Spring, 2014.

The Center has the MSU template for Request for Proposals (RFP) and is in the process of completing the scope of services focusing on, mandatory requirements for the vendors including experience in doing this type of work, where the vendor did this type of work (Colleges and/or University), the makeup of the team that will be used to implement the services provided; the contract period indicated; and the types of non-credit courses to be offered at Morgan. The goal is to submit the draft RFP to Procurement by the first of December.

Initiatives with William V.S. Tubman University (Liberia)

Architectural Design Challenge: In partnership with the School of Architecture and Planning, Center developed a design competition among students in architectural programs at Howard, Morgan, and Tuskegee to design a futuristic library (E-brary) to be built in 2015 for the William V.S. Tubman University in Liberia, West Africa. Judging of the student teams’ designs was held in the Center for the Built Environment and Infrastructure Studies (CBEIS) Building on Friday, November 8, 2013. President Wilson provided opening remarks. Dr. Elizabeth Davis-Russell, President of William V.S. Tubman University and Ms. Barbara Simmons, J.D., Dean and Associated Professor of International Education also brought greetings from Liberia, via video teleconference.
The Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement Committee has drafted an electronic survey on “curricular engagement” which it will be sending out shortly. The committee meets monthly to aggregate and discuss data relevant to the application, which is due April 15, 2014. The committee plans to use the data collected for the Carnegie Classification for other awards/distinctions including the 2014 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. “The President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, launched in 2006, annually highlights the role colleges and universities play in solving community problems and placing more students on a lifelong path of civic engagement by recognizing institutions that achieve meaningful, measurable outcomes in the communities they serve.” The deadline for applying for this distinction is also in April 2014.

Memorandum of Understanding: For the past several months, Morgan and Tubman have been working on an MOU to encourage collaborations between the two institutions within fields of common interest and to promote academic and/or applied research, scholarship, and professional development. Special emphasis in the MOU is placed on collaboration in the areas of Architecture, Business, Education, Engineering, and Professional and/or Workforce Development. The MOU has now been approved for form and legal sufficiency and focus is now on how to best execute and memorialize the MOU. While Dr. Bragg, President Davis-Russell, and Barbara Simmons deserve credit for initiating the idea of a MOU between Morgan and Tubman Universities, the final MOU is an example of interdisciplinary as well as inter-institutional collaboration that included several meetings with and input on the drafts from Drs. Akers, Coleman, Nyasuma, Fitchue, and Welch.

Teaming Agreement with UNITED VETS STEM-SMART (UVSS)

The Center has developed a Teaming Agreement with UVSS to work collaboratively to provide the Cisco Certification classes to veterans and to other qualified students who, upon satisfactory completion of the required classes will have the necessary skills to become certified as a CompTIA A+ Certified PC hardware technician, a Cisco Certified Entry Network Technician (CCENT), a Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA), and/or Microsoft Certified Technician (MCT). Among other responsibilities UVSS, agrees to recruit veterans for the three (3) Cisco Certification classes to be taught at Morgan including:

1. Cisco IT Essentials (CompTIA A+)
2. Cisco Certified Entry Network Technician (CCENT)
3. Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA)

Morgan will collect tuition and fees and pay UVSS for the Cisco certified instructors and retain the net revenue.

Summer Session & Special Programs (including ESL)

Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement

The Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement Committee has drafted an electronic survey on “curricular engagement” which it will be sending out shortly. The committee meets monthly to aggregate and discuss data relevant to the application, which is due April 15, 2014. The committee plans to use the data collected for the Carnegie Classification for other awards/distinctions including the 2014 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. “The President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, launched in 2006, annually highlights the role colleges and universities play in solving community problems and placing more students on a lifelong path of civic engagement by recognizing institutions that achieve meaningful, measurable outcomes in the communities they serve.” The deadline for applying for this distinction is also in April 2014.
The English as a Second Language (ESL) Program at Morgan State University consists of three interrelated components: language instruction, cultural immersion and educational field experiences. The program's foundational aim is to increase students' oral and written proficiency in standard American English. The English as a Second Language (ESL) Program inaugurated its course offerings summer 2013. Since then, the Program has offered several courses to students from around the world. The ESL Program is committed to providing intensive language instruction and rich local and regional cultural experiences that empower our students that are learning English as a second language to become successful students in the mainstream classroom and productive members of our community at home and beyond. Language learning certainly occurs in a traditional classroom setting, but is greatly enhanced by interpersonal and cultural experiences. Students in the ESL Program are taken from the classroom to the community.

The ESL Program works closely with the Morgan State University (MSU) iPal Program, a program that pairs international students with Morgan mentors for the purpose of friendship, camaraderie, academic guidance and social assimilation. The ESL Program is intensive in nature: The students spend four hours a day, five days a week in the classroom. This intensive learning environment, coupled with local and regional excursions, in conjunction with the iPal Program, ensures that students become proficient not only in the English language, but also in cultural competency.

Courses offered since summer 2013 include: ESL Intermediate Low (Level 4), ESL Intermediate High (Level 5), and Individualized Advanced Reading and Composition.

Additionally, the ESL Program has hosted students from the following countries.

- Brazil
- Italy
- Saudi Arabia

The ESL Program tests students’ level of English proficiency prior to beginning the program and upon program completion. The iTEP (International Test of English Proficiency) instrument, a computer based assessment tool allows for the tracking of students' improvement.

The English as a Second Language Program excursions since summer 2013 include the following:

- July 20th: Artscape, the country's largest free art festival
- August 3rd: Washington, D.C., including a guided bus tour of the city
- August 24th: Inner Harbor, including a lunch boat tour of the historical sites
- September 9th: Baltimore Orioles versus New York Yankees baseball game at Camden Yards
- October 12th: Lancaster County, P.A., including a tour of the Amish Village and a bus tour of the region
- October 25th: Autumn Corn Maze in Baltimore County
- November 9th: Philadelphia, P.A., including a guided tour of the National Constitution Center
Since the administration of Morgan Online has been the responsibility of the Division of AO&E, the focus has been on the following:

Hiring a Director

The search process has now been completed and an offer has been made to a candidate whose effective date of employment is scheduled for January 2, 2014.

Establishing an Office

A new office, 201 McKeldin, has been built and outfitted with furniture and office hardware and software. The telephone number for the Director is (443) 885-4720. Administrative support including copier services is provided by the Division office at 206 McKeldin.

Implementing Existing Online Programs and Courses

Degree Programs: Morgan is approved by the Maryland Higher Education Commission to award three on-line degrees including the doctorate (Ed.D) in Community College Leadership, a Master of Science (M.S.) degree in Electrical Engineering, a Bachelor of Science degree (B.S.) in Electrical Engineering (2+2 Program), and a Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Project Management. Only the Community College Leadership doctoral degree is fully implemented where students are enrolled and pursuing a course of study online leading to the degree.

Course Enrollment: For the fall 2013 semester, sixty-four (64) Fall online courses, both web based (W) and hybrid (H) are being offered with a total enrollment of 739 students. Two of the 64 courses (i.e., Introduction to Biology) are hybrid where students are in class and online. The two hybrid courses account for 43 of the 739 students. For spring 2013 semester, one hundred forty-two (142) courses, both web based (W) and hybrid (H) were offered online with a total enrollment of 1,596 students. Six (6) of the 142 courses are hybrid courses accounting for 144 students. In summary, the grand total enrollment for both spring and fall semesters is 2,335 students (1596 + 739) of which 187 (43 + 144) of the students are/were enrolled in hybrid courses.
The Office of Community Service (OCS) was created in November 1993 to design, develop and implement dynamic community service programs to boldly address the educational, social, cultural, and recreational needs of the under-educated, under-represented, educationally "at risk" and homeless residents of the Baltimore metropolitan area.

With this in mind, the Office of Community Service provides Morgan State University students with the training, supervision, support, recognition, and evaluation needed to participate in structured community volunteer programs.

Additionally, the Office of Community Service provides the students at Morgan with effective and challenging community service programs which address the social, cultural, educational and recreational needs of the residents in the Baltimore Metropolitan Area. As a result of participating in a community service learning program, the students not only relate their classroom learning to the realities of life, but they also realize that by helping to improve the lives of others, they are learning to grow the future and to lead the world.

Operating consistent with the University's mission statement, the Office of Community Service has created fourteen (14) community service programs. Currently the office is managed by the Director, Ms. Deanna Ikhinmwin, and two work study students. The Those University students who volunteer to become program coordinators along with the students who volunteer to become tutors and counselors are the reason that the Office of Community Service is able to offer the 14 programs. All of these student volunteers spend countless hours developing comprehensive plans to achieve the goals of the programs.

The five (5) largest community service programs are:

KUUMBA Tutoring and Mentoring Program: After-School (20 Participants)/Summer Camp (50 Participants)/Number of Morgan Students: 9 volunteers---After school program/4 work-study students----summer camp

Campus Pals: Campus Pals is a volunteer service program, which gives elementary and middle school students an opportunity to visit and learn about a prominent HBCU. Morgan State University Tour Guides – 10/Elementary, Middle School Tours – 10

KWANZAA (December 7, 2013): At Morgan State University Kwanzaa occurs on the first Saturday in December. Parents, students, teachers and family friends—800/64 elementary schools/12 middle schools/14 high schools/ MSU student volunteers (campus sororities, fraternities, honor societies, dormitories, student clubs)—200

MSU Tutoring Program (K through 5th grade): On Campus tutoring on weekends only - 200 children/54 elementary schools (public, private, charter)/20 Morgan State University student tutors

YES to College: May 27th Interactive workshop for 400 middle school students/May 29th Interactive workshop for 400 high school students. Students will come from the 5 surrounding states;
Hiring of ETS Personnel: The search process has now been completed for the ETS Director position and as of September 4, 2013, Dr. Marla Wyche-Hall has assumed this role of the program. Consistent with the terms and funding of the Department of Education grant, Dr. Arthur Polly has been hired as the Rigorous School Program Coordinator and Ms. Antoinette Smith has been hired as the Lead Office Support Assistant. Ms. TaNae Harris who served for a time as Interim Director has returned to her former position as Program Coordinator. Morgan's ETS program is now fully staffed.

Additionally, the ETS program is proud to announce its first intern since the inception of the ETS program at MSU in 2002, Ms. Falisha Sanchez. Ms. Sanchez is a senior, Communications / Public Relations major.

Goals of ETS: The MSU-ETS program which is now in its third year of a five year funding cycle of $230,000 / per year, is an early intervention program that helps families and their students with limited academic resources better understand their educational opportunities through various services as: college day visits, financial aid forums (FAFSA), SAT Prep Academy, Tutorial sessions, GED completion supports, cultural enrichment activities and year around mentorship support towards high school graduation, leading to post secondary admission into a 4-year institution of higher learning. This is a free year around program for all students in 6th – 12th grades, ages 11-27, meeting the eligibility criteria.

Programming Efforts: The ETS program annually serves 600 students throughout the academic year drawn from one middle school, two transformation high schools, five high schools in the East Baltimore neighborhoods. In addition to these target schools (W.E.B. DuBois, Reginald F. Lewis, Maritime Industries Academy, Reach!, Bluford Drew Jemison East, National Academy Foundation, Heritage, and Friendship Academy. The MSU-ETS program serves students residing in communities surrounding Morgan in Northeast and Eastern Baltimore City and enrolled in target schools and in low-income neighborhoods in zip codes 21205, 21206, 21212, 21213, 21214, 21218 and 21234.

Of the 600 students in the ETS program, approximately 150 students participate in the free summer enrichment program hosted at MSU to enhance their academic preparation through a 12th grade boot camp, the exploration of the arts, and entrepreneurial opportunities.

Location: Beginning January 25, 2014, the 2nd Floor B Wing of the Montebello Complex will be the location for SAT Prep Academy classes, parent town hall informative sessions regarding issues on college readiness, weekly tutorial sessions, speaker series forums, round tables discussion sessions, and meetings with ETS participants facilitated by the program coordinators and community members.
The Upward Bound Program is one of the seven Trio Programs funded by the Department of Education. In 2012, the MSU Upward Bound Program was funded for $1.9 million for five years to provide support and preparation for ninety-five (95) disadvantaged high school low-income and/or first generation students and their families in preparation for college entrance. The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate of high school completion and enrollment into an institution of postsecondary education.

The MSU Upward Bound class of 2013 graduated twenty-three (23) participants with nineteen (19) enrolling in a postsecondary institution. Eight (8) students enrolled at four-year institutions and eleven (11) students enrolled at two-year institutions. Three of the 23 graduates are enrolled at Morgan as a regular admit and six (6) are participating in the MSU CONNECT Program.

During the 2013 summer component, the Upward Bound Program hosted fifty (50) high school students from the northeast Baltimore City neighborhoods who were able to reside on the MSU campus, Monday through Friday, for five weeks. The MSU Upward Bound Program provided academic instruction in mathematics, sciences, English, Spanish, study skills tutoring, counseling, cultural enrichment, and financial literacy. MSU’s Upward Bound Program partnered with the other Baltimore Metropolitan Upward Bound Programs at the Community Colleges of Baltimore County, the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), and the UMBC Math/Science Program in order for the students to participate in the Academic Bee, the Academic Expo, and in cultural and recreational activities on the various campuses. During the summer component, the MSU Upward Bound was selected as a participant in the NASA Summer of Innovation Project. The MSU Upward Bound students were provided hand-on materials to perform learning experiences to increase their interest and excitement in STEM areas of study.

Currently, eighty-seven (87) students in grades 9 through 12 are participating in the MSU Upward Bound Program in: tutoring sessions on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays; SAT Preparation courses in mathematics, English, French, Spanish, history, and science; college and career counseling; community service projects; and in college visits. In addition to the academic enrichment programs being offered during this period, the MSU Upward Bound has partnered with the Greater Baltimore Urban League Saturday Leadership Program which exposes students to many career role-models, and additional colleges and group activities at a variety of locations in the Baltimore Metropolitan area through April 2014.