Division of Student Affairs
2015-2016 Priorities

1) Work closely with the Student Affairs Senior Leadership Team and Department Directors on efforts related to advancing the University’s Strategic Plan Year III Priorities, as well as Division-specific initiatives.

2) Strengthen new initiatives launched in ’14-'15 that provided support and assistance to WCU students. Specific examples include the Athletic Mentoring Program, Campus Connect Suicide Prevention Training, Green Dot Bystander Intervention Program, Off Campus and Commuter Services Community Ambassador Program, CDC College Based Career Fairs, ONSP New Student Success Series, and OSLVP involvement in International Alternative Break Service Trips.

3) Partner with Facilities Division on Dining Commons project, Vonnie Gros Field replacement (2015), Sykes Union Expansion Feasibility Study, Athletic Facilities Building, Rockwell Field lighting project, Farrell Stadium Field replacement (2016), resolution of privacy/ sound masking system in Counseling Center, and traditional residence hall renovation projects.

4) As a result of retirements, resignations, and increased staffing thanks to critical needs and auxiliary funding; the Division will hire 17 new faculty, staff, and coaches this summer. The opportunity for a small Division to bring a significant number of new employees provides a wonderful opportunity to diversify our staff, and welcome new perspectives/experiences to program planning and delivery of services to students.

5) Improve collaborative efforts with Academic Affairs on “signature” programs such as Service-Learning, Student Leadership training, Athletic Mentoring and SASS program, Career Development interactions with Academic Departments, Health and Wellness educational efforts, New Student Programs involvement in First-Year Experience initiatives, and special retention initiatives for unique populations (LGBTQA, URM, International, Veteran, Transfer).

6) Student Affairs Departments will promote/support leadership development programs and opportunities for interested individual students and members of student clubs/organizations, paraprofessional staff, and athletic teams.

7) Student Affairs Departments will remain committed to student safety issues through our direct partnership with the Office of Public Safety and the West Chester Borough Police. Key divisional leaders will continue their membership/work with the University’s Threat Assessment Team and Student Behavior Review Committee.

8) Student Affairs will work to secure additional money for Athletic scholarships, identify new corporate/individuals to sponsor leadership programs, and expand fund raising efforts for LGBTQA scholarships, Charlotte Newcombe scholarships, and Kente Stole sponsorships. Enhance partnership with WCU Foundation staff assigned to raise dollars in support of Divisional priorities.

9) Student Affairs will take an active role in supporting University efforts to expand international programs by working closely with the Office of International Programs to develop/improve service delivery for international students and increase awareness of international opportunities and study-abroad programs for WCU domestic students. Programs, cultural events, and a special Spring Break (2016) Leadership Trip to Spain will be offered to help raise students’ understanding of their role in the global society.

10) Departmental priorities are as follows:
DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENTAL PRIORITIES
2015-2016

Priorities:
A. **Student Health Services** will continue efforts to minimize incidence of student influenza through expanded vaccination campaign (16.3% increase in flu shots noted this past year).

B. **Counseling** priorities include hiring a full-time Case Manager to assist with the referrals off-campus for students who present with longer-term mental health needs; expand Campus Connect Suicide Prevention efforts by presenting to more faculty and staff at their meetings; bring the new psychologist on-board and get some additional Mindfulness and Positive Psychology groups running; “pilot” early evening hours.

C. **LGBTQA Services** will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the LGBTQA student organization by memorializing the accomplishments and highlights over the years through special programs and events; increase Speakout panels, LGBTQA 101, Peer Educator and Ally Workshops by 15% over 2014-2015; add a Mentoring component to Peer Educator program.

D. **The Women’s Center** will collaborate with the Office of Student Leadership and Involvement and Women’s and Gender Studies Program to create a Women’s Leadership Conference on November 7; work with the Coordinator for Healthy Masculinity and Violence Prevention Programs to create a long term sexual violence prevention plan for WCU; publicly launch the Green Dot Bystander Intervention Program on campus.

E. **Fraternity and Sorority Life** will complete the development and implementation of new fraternity/sorority wide Risk Prevention procedures; including event management protocols and the management of philanthropic and community service focused events; develop a comprehensive leadership development program that includes a community-wide focus on member development from the first semester of membership to graduation, and then alumni engagement.

F. **Student Leadership & Involvement** will review the recognition process for forming clubs and organizations and make recommendations for changes and identify potential areas of deficiency and improvement; review all existing leadership programs and determine if revisions and/or repurposing are necessary.

G. **Campus Recreation** will work on strategies to obtain more facility space on and off campus to meet demand and growth for both Sports Clubs and Intramurals; work with Facilities and Athletics to gain approval for Rockwell Field lighting.

H. **Office of Wellness Promotion** will identify more effective marketing venues for Wellness Promotion services, programing; increase focus on sustainability programming/education/awareness on campus; determine prevalence of use of tobacco and nicotine products among WCU students; continue coordination of West Chester Together social marketing campaign with WCU faculty, staff and community members; increase marketing of the Campus Sexual Misconduct Advocate services to student groups and organizations.

I. **Off-Campus & Commuter Services** will implement the Community Ambassador Program in off campus neighborhoods; deliver on good neighbor behaviors and Borough zoning and codes for off campus residents, local businesses’ advertisements, calendar of events for on campus and Borough activities & program; host Good Neighbor events.

J. **Twardowski Career Development Center** will hire new Assistant Directors (2); expand educational efforts focused on students’ interview preparation and job search strategies, to strengthen their competencies and competitiveness in the employment search; implement new Employer Relations policies and processes, including reviewing and approving all jobs and internships posted in Ram Career Network; implement ProNet functionality in Ram Career Network, to provide a platform for student-alumni and alumni-alumni networking; continue to enhance marketing, promotional and social media activities to further engage students in accessing resources, programs and services.

K. **The Office of Multicultural Affairs** will refine the roles and responsibilities of the Peer Mentors as the program is redesigned to accommodate the increasing number of participants; hire support staff member and second Graduate Assistant; actively participate in Council on Diversity, Inclusion, and Academic Excellence as the Campus Climate Survey is implemented.
L. The Office of Service-Learning and Volunteer Programs will expand the visibility, impact, and stability of the department in several ways: launch the Online Volunteer Directory this upcoming year; welcome the AmeriCorps PACC*Vista member coordinating the America Reads program next year; dedicate resources to assist the Master of Public Health Program with incorporating service-learning into the curricula as a part of the program’s accreditation; firm-up financial support for the Community Engagement Scholars program; conduct a search to fill the recently approved permanent position of Assistant Director.

M. Sykes Union will conduct the search for the Associate and/or Assistant Director of Sykes positions; moving forward with the Sykes Union expansion and renovation feasibility study; complete carpeting of the Food Court and Common Grounds project; prepare the August 2015 student staff training.

N. Housing Services will manage the upgrade of housing management software from Housing Director 3.2.6 to THD 4.0; implement the plan for students to submit housing deposits at the time of application (Spring 2016); evaluate the administration of the meal plan management system in conjunction with key offices; re-visit 2010 proposal for offering a Gender-Neutral housing option; complete major facilities work in Goshen and Schmidt Halls.

O. Residence Life will strengthen partnerships and collaborations with other departments; provide more intentional staff development for the RD/GHD/GA staff; continue efforts to streamline operations and staff “systems”.

P. New Student Programs will complete all logistical improvements and changes for both Transfer Orientation, Non-Traditional Orientation, and Part 2 August Orientation 2015; improve marketing efforts for the New Student Success Series and increase attendance numbers; enhance electronic newsletter that is sent to new students each month; focus on collaboration efforts between Student Affairs and Academic Departments to improve new student transitions to WCU; evaluate hiring process for orientation leaders for 2016; review and revise the orientation leader training materials for the summer of 2016.

Q. Athletics will focus on the Academic Success of Student-Athletes, while fielding competitive teams that are in the top tier of PSAC and NCAA DII programs. Facility enhancements and fundraising plans will move forward, and special attention focused on Athletic mentoring Program and the Student Athlete Support Services (SASS) Program.