

Resident Life Center – 2012 Learning Communities Assessment Report

The NWIC Residence Life Center has developed Living Learning communities in an effort to improve the quality of the undergraduate and particularly first-year experience. The purpose of the living learning communities is to integrate intentional curriculum, programs, and experiences into the living quarters of NWIC students, in hopes of creating more opportunities for engagement and academic excellence.

There are four areas of Living Learning communities that you may choose to engage in. By answering a few simple questions on the application for NWIC Residence Life, we will help you determine which community is best for your academic pursuits. The four areas are:

- **Science & Sustainability**
- **Students in Service**
- **Education**
- **Health and Wellness**

Each area is described below and includes a sample of the learning outcomes and programs and events for the year.

Science & Sustainability

Science and Sustainability is a community geared toward students with a specific interest in all fields of science, including health sciences, environmental and sustainability issues, and yada yada. The community promotes these interests through dynamic programming and events. Students will have the opportunity to build strong peer relationships with other students and faculty interested in learning more about the world and how to be an informed scientist and global citizen.

Learning Outcomes

- Students will gain the knowledge and experience of professors and professionals working in the areas of biology, chemistry, health sciences, and environmental science on a micro and macro level.
- Students will build strong peer relationships through networking with other students interested in science and sustainability issues.
- Students will gain experience in working with federal, state, and local organizations and agencies that relate to scientific fields, as well as various sustainability organizations.
- Students will achieve academic success while being supported by peers, faculty and staff.

Programs and Events

- An all day leadership retreat during the first week of classes
- Science field trips within the community
- Participate in the Legacy Building Initiative through the Cesar E. Chavez Action Center
- Fall Semester Social Justice class taught in the residence halls
- Guest Speakers from community organizations and local scientists
- Field trips and behind the scene tours to local government agencies, action groups, non-profit organization
- Semester long research project culminating in a presentation of findings to the community

Assessment Results

- **6 students participated in programs listed below and returned year end surveys.**

Outcome	Indicator	Result
Students will gain the knowledge and experience of professors and professionals working in the areas of biology, chemistry, health sciences, and environmental science on a micro and macro level.	One quarterly event with professional in the field	No event was held for RLC Learning Community participants. Not Accomplished
Students will build strong peer relationships through networking with other students interested in science and sustainability issues.	Two quarterly study sessions with learning community peers	Learning Community students participated in various study jam events and a special session including BIOL/CHEM courses was created. Accomplished
Students will gain experience in working with federal, state, and local organizations and agencies that relate to scientific fields, as well as various sustainability organizations.	One yearly event bringing agents in contact with learning community peers	Alejandro Morales, internship ambassador, presented at RLC once. Accomplished
Students will achieve academic success while being supported by peers, faculty and staff.	Successful completion of first year courses or SAP (2.00 GPA)	72% SAP (N=6) Accomplished

Health and Wellness

The Healthy Living Learning Community provides students an opportunity to become engaged in all aspects of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. It includes in-class and out-of-class experiences designed to learn about a wide range of wellness topics including but not limited to stress management, healthy eating habits, a variety of exercise options, and the spirit-mind-body connection. The Healthy Living Community includes a variety of specialized educational programs sponsored by the Kinesiology Department, the Student Wellness Advocacy Team, and Student Health Services. This community is offered to all students on a space available basis.

Learning Outcomes

- Describe healthy habits in relation to alcohol/substance abuse, nutrition, stress, fitness, relationships and conflict resolution.
- Engage in activities leading to improved personal, physical and mental health.

Programs and Events

Students in Service

The Students in Service Community provides students with the opportunity for academic support, career exploration, and integrated social experiences.

Learning Outcomes

- Students will gain the knowledge and experience of professors and professionals working in the areas of interest and community impact
- Students will build strong relationships with other students interested in service learning and servant leadership.
- Students will gain experience in working with community service
- Students will achieve academic success while being supported by peers, faculty and staff.

Programs and Events

- An all day leadership retreat during the first week of classes
- Service trips within the community
- Participate in the Guiding Lights and Continuums of Service conferences in Spring Quarter
- Fall Semester Social Justice class taught in the residence halls
- Guest Speakers from community action groups, local charities, and local government
- Field trips and behind the scene tours to local government agencies, action groups, non-profit organization
- Semester long service learning project with a local organization
- Opportunities to connect with local community leaders, build a service learning portfolio, and serve the local community
- Students can choose from a wide variety of organizations based on their interests
- Semester culminates in a showcase of the service projects

Assessment Results

- **4 students participated in Students In Service Learning Community events and completed year-end surveys**

Outcome	Indicator	Result
Students will gain the knowledge and experience of professors and professionals working in the areas of interest and community impact	One quarterly event with professional in the field	2 Students In Service learning community participants attended Year End Service Learning summit Accomplished
Students will build strong relationships with other students interested in service learning and servant leadership.	Two quarterly study sessions with learning community peers	Students In Service learning community participants attended Study Jams Accomplished
Students will gain experience in working with community service	One yearly service learning event	4 students participated in Service learning projects Accomplished

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Students will achieve academic success while being supported by peers, faculty and staff.	Successful completion of first year courses or SAP (2.00 GPA)	Results not available Not Accomplished
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Education

Learning Outcomes

- Students will build strong relationships with other students interested in teacher education programs
- Students will achieve academic success while being supported by peers, departmental faculty and staff.

Programs and Events

- Interaction with faculty outside of the classroom
- High-quality programming to enhance your discovery of the field of curriculum and instruction
- In-hall academic assistance through the tutoring center and faculty visits
- Study sessions
- Opportunities to interact with professionals and alumni who are currently pursuing a career in education preparation programs
- Field trips to support major and career exploration
- Personal and floor volunteer opportunities related to your interests
- Opportunities to meet and learn from upperclassmen who are currently in the department
- Opportunities to explore internships to enhance experiences with teaching and child development

Assessment Results

- **No students were in the Education learning community**

Outcome	Indicator	Result
Students will build strong relationships with other students interested in teacher education programs		
Students will achieve academic success while being supported by peers, departmental faculty and staff.		

Communications

The Communications community is for students interested in Information technology, Tribal government and business management, English, or other related programs of study. Programs and

activities are geared toward early integration in to your academic program and include opportunities for you to interact with faculty in your chosen field outside the classroom.

Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate improved critical thinking and collaborative problem solving skills
- Demonstrate an increased awareness, understanding, or capacity to successfully navigate cross-cultural differences
- Demonstrate improved knowledge and skills related to career opportunities

Programs and Events

- Interaction with faculty outside of the classroom.
- High-quality programming to enhance your discovery of the field of Information Technology.
- Study sessions for IT classes.
- Opportunities to interact with professionals and alumni who are currently pursuing careers in interest areas
- Opportunities to meet and learn from graduates and current students in interest areas

Assessment Results

- **No students were in the Communications learning community**

Outcome	Indicator	Result
Demonstrate improved critical thinking and collaborative problem solving skills		
Demonstrate an increased awareness, understanding, or capacity to successfully navigate cross-cultural differences		
Demonstrate improved knowledge and skills related to career opportunities		