

Shared GROUNDS



Our Identity

September 19, 2014

AFFIRM OUR IDENTITY AND CELEBRATE THE HARD WORK AND SEAWOLF PRIDE THAT WENT INTO PREPARING FOR THE START OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR. IT'S A GREAT TIME TO BE A SEAWOLF!

CONVERSATION ACTIVITIES:

Shared Grounds debuted by exploring our identity as UAA Student Affairs & engaging in dialogue centered around the following questions:

- ✧ What are the perceptions of UAA Student Affairs to outside individuals, groups and the community?
- ✧ How do these perceptions align with or relate to our core themes within Student Affairs?

Harvesting of this Shared Grounds experience allowed staff the opportunity to share their pride for UAA and appreciation for each other.



KEY INSIGHTS:

Staff dove into conversations about pride, perceptions and relationships. Perceptions of UAA Students Affairs to outside individuals, groups and the community (*indicates themes raised by two or more groups*):

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| ✧ Student-centered: Student Affairs is secondary to the student at the university | ✧ People on the street may not know what Student Affairs does. Who? Huh? We need to take responsibility to be representatives of the university. | ✧ Separation of Academic and Student Affairs with lack of understanding |
| ✧ Student Affairs is about quality | ✧ Headlines shape outside views | ✧ Enthusiasm |
| ✧ Student Affairs is accessible | ✧ Success Services | ✧ Forms & Stuff |
| ✧ We are respected in the community | ✧ Problem Solving | ✧ Foundation for Academic Success |
| ✧ We are not realistic, we dream big | ✧ UAA Cares | ✧ Partnerships that create success for students |
| ✧ Progressive vs. traditional, there is a disconnect | ✧ Student Services | ✧ Non-teachers/non-faculty |
| ✧ Talented. Excellent Rep. A high level of respect for student affairs | ✧ Success and Support | ✧ Service oriented |
| ✧ We are a great school for veterans | ✧ Guidance | ✧ Supporting the academic side |
| ✧ We are physically disjointed. Main Campus and the UC. | | ✧ Experts in field |

POSSIBILITIES FOR CO-CREATION:

- ✧ There were expressions of a lack of understanding as to what exactly we do as UAA Student Affairs. Identify the ways UAA Student Affairs can better tell our story to others outside of Student Affairs and foster understanding across all levels (to academic affairs, our students, parents, stakeholders, the community, etc.) Identify actionable methods to share our stories and pathways for staff to follow when they have something to share.
- ✧ Establish a campaign about what makes staff proud to be a Seawolf within UAA Student Affairs (share your pride).