

Defining Moments Reflection

Emily Lane

Department of Higher Education, The Penn State University

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Dr. Karen Paulson

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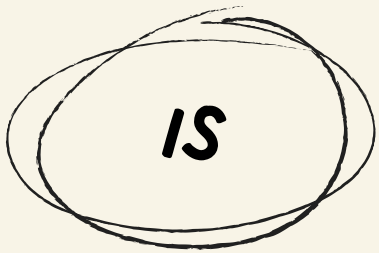
Defining Moments Reflection

One “refining moment” happened in the spring of 2021 in HIED 810, planning and resource management, where I completed several program prioritization assignments simultaneously to analyze a current leadership crisis in HIED 842, Administration Leadership in Higher Education. These two assignments complemented each other in that one was explaining the challenges and benefits of strategic program prioritization to proactively avoid a financial crisis, and the other showed a real time example of the leadership of John Carroll University choosing to violate the professional security of tenure as a response to financial hardship. Analyzing these two assignments simultaneously highlighted the impact that forethought and strategic planning can have on an institution. It’s easy for me to think about higher education institutions as being historically established with longstanding leadership who are reluctant to change. Seeing the practical usefulness of engaging in Institutional Research for planning really got me excited about getting into the field of higher education.

PROGRAM PRIORITIZATION

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Taking data, analyzing it, creating narratives that tell departmental stories in a compelling way so review panels can rank and prioritize programs as efficiently as possible



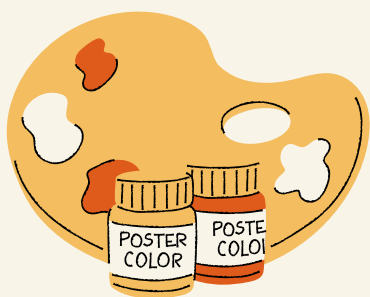
Decision making that is data informed with clear criteria to follow



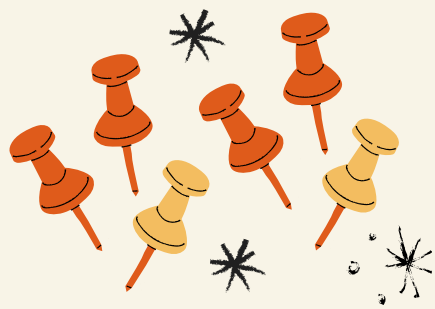
Supportive of institutional strategic goals



Follows a several year timeline



Resource allocation to programs that advance the institutional mission



Decision making based on speculation



Retaliation against departments or faculty members



Spontaneous changes that cause unpredictable troubles.



Resource allocation to give money to "sacred cows"

READY?

Program prioritization officers will be elected from a group of your peers, so elect a faculty representative from your department and college today!

REFERENCES

Northern Illinois University. (2015, February 24). Program Prioritization Overview. YouTube. Program Prioritization Overview