ENHANCING ACHIEVEMENT IN UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH, INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES, SERVICE LEARNING, AND EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING (RISE)

PREAMBLE

IUPUI Mission Statement

> Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), a partnership between Indiana and Purdue Universities, is Indiana's urban research and academic health sciences campus. IUPUI´s mission is to advance the State of Indiana and the intellectual growth of its citizens to the highest levels nationally and internationally through research and creative activity, teaching and learning, and civic engagement. By offering a distinctive range of bachelor's, master's, professional, and Ph.D. degrees, IUPUI promotes the educational, cultural, and economic development of central Indiana and beyond through innovative collaborations, external partnerships, and a strong commitment to diversity. (Trustee Approved – November 2005)

To implement our mission, IUPUI developed goals for Excellence in Teaching and Learning; Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity; and Civic Engagement. Consistent with those goals, IUPUI is challenging each student to have at least two curricular learning experiences that augment the typical curriculum and that fall within the four areas of curricular excellence that are consistent with the mission of IUPUI.

Graduates from IUPUI will be known for completing:

- study abroad curricular experiences to enhance their learning and understanding of the world,
- credit-bearing undergraduate research experiences to augment their understanding of research, scholarship, and creative activities,
- service learning courses to enhance their commitment to civic engagement, and
- credit-bearing experiential learning experiences, such as internships, practicums, or fieldwork experiences.

Each of these four areas must incorporate:

- knowledge—the concepts, facts, and information acquired through formal learning and past experience;
- activity—the application of knowledge to a "real world" setting;
- reflection—the analysis and synthesis of knowledge and activity to create new knowledge;
- assessment—an appraisal of the extent to which the learning objectives identified for the educational experience are met; and a
- record—a formal documentation on the transcript that the experience has been satisfactorily completed.

RECOMMENDED POLICY

Every individual granted an IUPUI baccalaureate degree will complete at least two of the following four types of educational experiences which qualify for documentation on the student's transcript: undergraduate research, study abroad, service learning, or experiential learning.

STAGED IMPLEMENTATION

Establishing the capacity of IUPUI to make these experiences available to all undergraduates as a degree requirement will take at least 2 years. In the interim, all entering students will be challenged to complete two of the four experiences at a level that qualifies for posting to the official transcript: undergraduate research, study abroad, service learning, or experiential learning.

SUGGESTED NAME

RISE to the Challenge at IUPUI

Research
International Study Abroad
Service Learning
Experiential Learning

DEFINITIONS

Undergraduate Research Experience

Requirement: At least 3 research credit hours which involve conducting research under the mentorship of a faculty member.

Undergraduate research experiences include any scholarly or artistic activities that lead to the production of new knowledge; to increased problem solving capabilities, including design and analysis; to original critical or historical theory and interpretation; or to the production of art or artistic performance. The research requirement will not be met by courses that teach about research; rather, it is a credit-bearing educational experience that involves the student in conducting research under the mentorship of a faculty member.

Action Required: Add a transcript notation to the list of Experiential Learning Notations http://www.registrar.iupui.edu/transcript/tran-experiential.htm and/or create a course in which students would be registered if they are involved in research experiences that meet the definition above independent of a course.

International Experiences (Study Abroad)

Requirement: At least 3 credit hours of academic coursework that occurs outside of one of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, or US territories.

The list of categories of courses included in the existing Experiential Learning Notations on Indiana University Official Transcript policy includes Study Abroad defined as: Students earn academic credit for coursework that occurs outside of one of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, or US territories.
http://www.registrar.iupui.edu/transcript/tran-experiential.htm

Action Required: Create OVST (Overseas Study) courses in which students would be registered when they study abroad. These courses already exist when students participate in a program through the IU Office of Overseas Study and programs external to IU. For IUPUI programs, students currently only register for the credit-bearing departmental courses but not an additional OVST course. Creating these courses would mirror what the IU Office of Overseas Study does and allow for easy identification of students who have participated in study abroad programs. These courses would also benefit the study abroad office and the programs themselves by allowing program fees to be charged through the registration process.

Service Learning

Requirement: At least 3 credit hours of coursework designated as a service-learning course.

Service learning at IUPUI is defined as a course-based, credit-bearing educational experience in which students participate in an organized service activity that meets identified community needs and reflects on the service activity in such a way as to gain further understanding of course content, a broader appreciation of the discipline, and an enhanced sense of personal values and civic responsibility.

Consequently, for courses to receive a designation as a service-learning course in the university bulletin and on students' transcripts and to satisfy RISE requirements, the following criteria must be met.

1) A service-learning course will carry a minimum of three credit hours.
2) The service component(s) should respond to an identified community need. In addition, the component(s) should be designed and planned with input from the partnering community organization(s).
3) Students will complete a minimum of fifteen hours of service over the course of the semester.
4) Service activities should be explicitly linked to discipline-specific academic topics relevant to the course content.

5) Multiple opportunities for student reflection on their service experiences and its contribution to their *personal, academic, and civic learning* should be integrated throughout the course.
6) The service component of the students' final grade for the course should be based primarily on evidence of student learning. Consequently, service-learning courses should include assessment strategies in which students demonstrate how the service experience has contributed to their mastery of academic concepts and/or professional skills.

Action Required: None as these courses are currently noted on the transcripts using the existing/approved experiential learning notations.

Other Experiential Learning Courses

Requirement: At least 3 credit hours of coursework that is based on experiential learning.

This requirement is met with 3 credit hours of coursework specifically designed with increased requirements outside of the classroom that qualify as experiential learning (integration of knowledge, activity, reflection and assessment). This requirement may be met with specially designated credit-bearing classes or by one of the following instruction types:

1. Clinical Education
2. Cooperative Education
3. Field Work
4. Internship
5. Practicum
6. Student Teaching

Consistent with the other components of the RISE challenge, the experiential learning courses will incorporate knowledge, activity, reflection, and assessment and carry academic credit discernable on the students' transcript.

Action Required: Review of courses by academic units to identify the courses which are applicable to this category.

IMPLEMENTATION

In order to allow students time to meet the requirement, the policy will become effective 6 years after adoption. Adoption of the policy requires action by the IUPUI Faculty Council.

- The campus already has a process in place to add notes to individual courses through the Experiential Learning Guidelines as outlined above with four notations (and any combination of the four notations) already approved:

- Community Based Research
- Organized Community Service Activity
- Significant Time in Community Setting
- Immersed in Different Culture

- To implement additional *transcript notes*, the proposal has to go to Registrars' Council and APPC for review and the system wide Academic Leadership Council for approval.
  - Estimated time to complete approval—1 year
- University publications such as the *Bulletin* and school-specific curricular requirements would need to be updated to reflect the requirement and effective date.
- The on-line degree-audit tools would need to be modified to include the requirement and allow for easier tracking of completion.
- Academic units, assisted by the appropriate support units, would need to develop the additional research, Service Learning, and Study Abroad opportunities necessary to place students. This will require a period of review by each academic unit and Center for Service and Learning or the Office of International Affairs to determine the number and type of appropriate opportunities.
- Given the time-intensive nature of supervising research and in some cases limited research facilities, additional expenditures may be required to make enough available to meet the number of students desiring this option. Similarly, developing and supervising community-based activities may require additional staffing or a change in the level of faculty reward and recognition for involvement in these activities.
- Given the time required to assist faculty and schools in developing and maintaining study abroad programs as well as to advise and prepare students prior to an international experience and to assist students upon return, additional staff in the Office of International Affairs would be necessary to ensure appropriate and meaningful international experiences are available.
- Given the time required to adjust all campus degree audit programs to incorporate this requirement as well as the start up and continued maintenance of the significant number of course requirements/transcript notations, consideration should be given to additional staff or resources within the Office of the Registrar. This resource would assist the academic units with degree audit coding in addition to the system set up and maintenance required for the transcripting of these experiences.

3/1/08