

# Division of Student Affairs Student Feedback Session

The Division of Student Affairs is in the process of developing a three-year strategic plan. We are considering a few strategic priority areas and need your input to help shape our strategic plan goals.

## What is “Student Affairs?”

The [Division of Student Affairs](#) comprises various out-of-classroom areas that are devoted to providing services to all students in a supported learning and living environment to attain academic success. Some areas include:

- **Student Engagement and Belonging:** this includes our student clubs and organizations; centers including the Gathering Space, the Pride Center, and the Mosaic; commuter and transfer programming, and the Center for Democracy and Civic Life.
- **Services and Resources:** these include The Career Center, Event & Conference Services, The Commons, Residential Life, UMBC Transit, Student Conduct and Community Standards, Veteran and Military Affiliated Services, and commonvision.
- **Wellbeing Focused Initiatives:** this includes the counseling and medical resources that are a part of Retriever Integrated Health, Health Promotion, and Retriever Support Services which includes Essential Needs and Connections.

## What We Do:

Our mission is to foster a supportive, inclusive, and engaged campus community where every student can achieve their full potential. Our work is guided by the following commitments:

- We inspire a culture of collaboration.
- We center student success and growth.
- We foster an inclusive and supportive environment.
- We engage with civility and respect.
- We bridge learning and experience.
- We prioritize care and well-being.

## Strategic Priority Focus Areas

We are thinking about our work for the next three years in the context of these four strategic priority areas:

### 1. Enhance Operational Effectiveness and Organizational Agility

- This priority is about how we do our work.
- We want to make it easier for people to do their jobs by improving how things work, how we communicate, and how we work together.
- This also means being able to adjust when things change, instead of feeling stuck or slowed down by our systems.

## 2. Build a Thriving, Supportive, and Highly Effective Workforce

- This priority is about our Student Affairs staff.
- We want to create an environment where staff feel supported, respected, and able to learn and grow.
- When staff are supported and valued, they can do their best work and have a direct impact on students.

## 3. Advance Student Success and a Culture of Care

- Strengthen holistic student support, promote wellbeing, remove barriers, and ensure students experience connection, belonging, and care.
- Support students as whole people by helping them feel cared for, connected, and able to succeed, while removing barriers that get in their way.

## 4. Cultivate Transformative Experiences that Bridge Learning and Growth

- This priority is about helping students learn and grow through meaningful experiences.
- These experiences can happen in many places: in jobs, leadership roles, programs, or activities, not just in the classroom.
- The goal is to help students build skills, confidence, and a sense of direction for life after college.

## What We Want to Know from You (either at our event or in our online form):

- Student Success
  - When you hear the term *student success*, what does it mean to you? -or- Beyond GPA, what does *being a successful student* at UMBC look like to you?
  - In what ways would you like to see the Division of Student Affairs expand or strengthen the ways it impacts *student success*?
- The Student Experience
  - What's one thing you wish staff understood about your experience as a student?
- How Can We Do Better?
  - Considering the areas that make up student affairs, what is one process or 'hand-off' between offices that feels confusing or frustrating? What could be fixed to make life as a student easier?
- Our Proposed Priority Areas
  - Is there anything not covered in our priority focus areas that we should be thinking about?

## What Happens to the Feedback You Share?

The Strategic Plan Steering Committee will review all the info you share and prepare a report of the results that we will use to help us write goals to support our priority areas.

[Online Form \(Thanks in advance for your feedback!!!\)](#)