

Rethinking Collaboration: Breaking Silos Between Academic and Student Affairs to Foster Collegial Culture

The seal of Barry University is visible in the upper right corner. It is a circular emblem with the text "BARRY UNIVERSITY" at the top and "1940 • FLORIDA" at the bottom. The center of the seal features a shield with a cross and a book, with the word "GRACE" written above the shield.

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Introduction

- Organizational Leadership (Higher Ed. Admin)
- Center for Community service Initiative (CCSI)



Research Background

Academic
Affairs v.
student affairs

Silos within
Higher Ed.
organizations

collaboration

Collegiality

Research Context/Importance



Factors that may prevent the CCSI's ability to collaborate with student affairs effectively.



Create better partnerships between the Academic and student affairs administrators on campus.



Sustainable collaborations and collegial culture between both departments.

Research Question

Overarching Research Question

What factors may be preventing ongoing collaboration between CCSI and the Division of Mission and Student Engagement?

Sub-Questions

How may the governance model at this institution contribute to the current situation between these two entities?

How may the culture in each of these contexts contribute, if at all, to the creation of silos?

Which initiatives may provide a framework for organizational learning across these two entities?



Literature Review

History of student affairs across universities

Barriers to collaboration/overcoming those barriers

Organizational Learning Theory and
Collaboration in Higher Education Model

Administrative Support and Leadership



Methodology



Site: University in South Florida



Sequential mixed methods design consisting of two distinct phases.



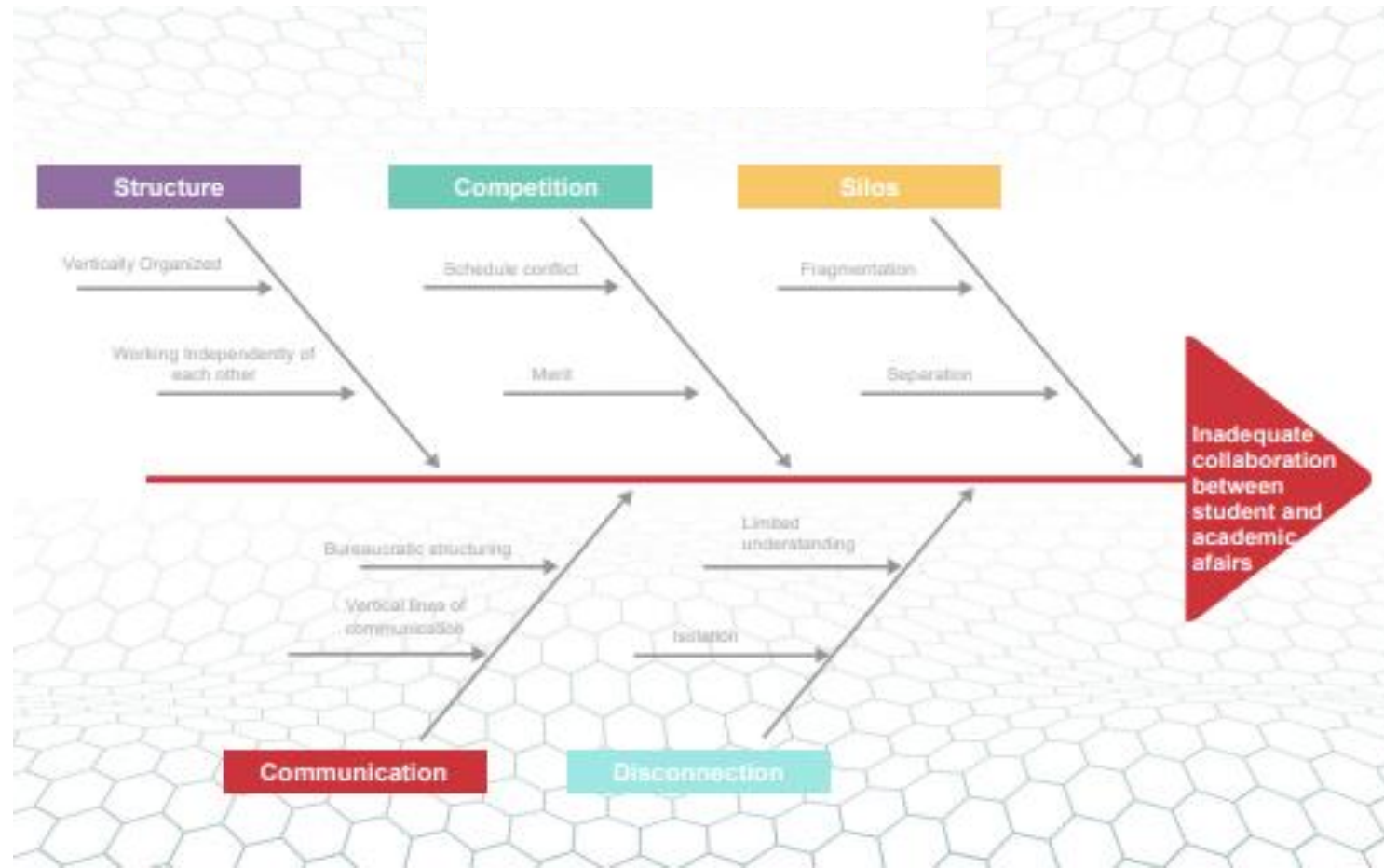
Phase 1: Focus Group



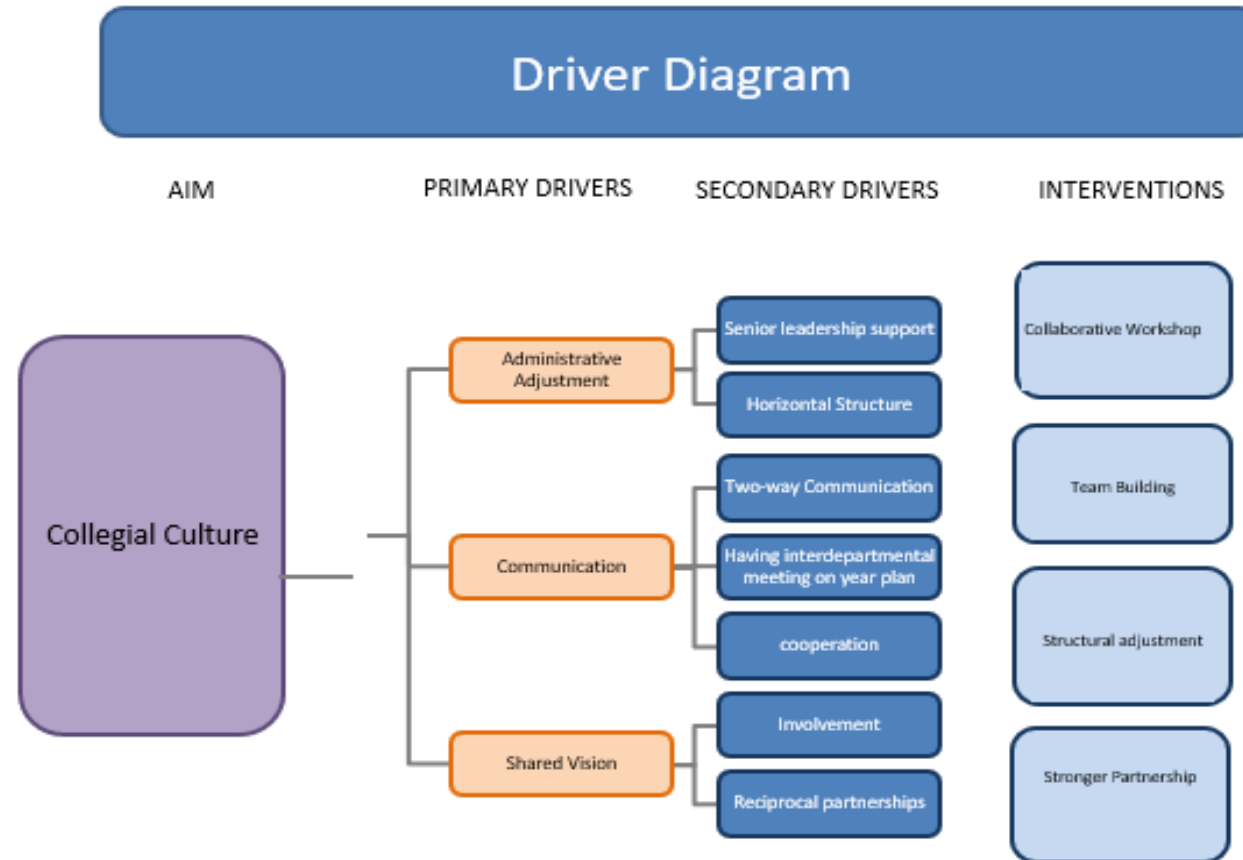
Phase II: Collaboration Survey (The University of Texas Institute of Organizational Excellence).



Findings



Findings



Discussion/Implication



Every day across the US Higher education institutions, hundreds of thousands of academic affairs faculty members and student affairs professionals work diligently for their students.



Silos in communication, available resources, student support, and collaboration between the two divisions



Efforts must be taken to lessen professional divides across campus. Relationship building among professionals builds trust, setting aside time and space for meetings to occur is critical for decreasing such divides.



Support from senior university leaders is imperative to fostering such connections on campus.



It is important they work to overcome these barriers and work collaboratively, because ultimately, the most important thing is students and, more specifically, those divisions' impact on the students' holistic educational experiences



It is expected that through the proposed change initiative, there may be improved collaboration between both divisions, thus, fostering a collegial culture, which may impact students' holistic experiences and higher participation in campus events.





Selected References

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Thank you

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