

Office of Institutional Research and Student Assessment (OIRSA)

Highlights from Strategic Planning Forums

The Hostos President's Office held **four strategic planning forums** <u>LINK</u> and administered a **web-based survey** <u>LINK</u> between February-March 2017 to solicit campus community input on strategic planning priorities for the next five years.

Forum participants discussed organizational strengths and challenges, and suggested future activities that will help us reach our completion goal.

Over 400 comments were analyzed and here's what we found:

Top Strengths of the College Consistently Cited:

- Support services, including the targeted programs for student support, the wrap-around services and our holistic approach to student support.
- The college's identity and reputation as a welcoming, diverse and caring learning environment.
- High level of instruction offered by the faculty of the College.
- Level and depth of advisement available.

Challenges the College must face:

- Identifying and supporting the needs of our students, particularly the needs that students arrive with or that exist beyond the classroom.
- College-wide dearth of interdepartmental/interdivisional communication and meaningful collaboration.
- The redress of remediation and need for more opportunities for tutoring.
- The current structure of advisement throughout the college presents a challenge to service delivery.

Suggested Activities for the next five years:

- Enhancement and promotion of the support services available to our students including targeted programs.
- Interest in improving the structure of advisement and further integrating existing efforts so that the duplication of services can be minimized and access maximized.
- Increased and consistent communication across campus, between faculty and staff, and among staff to provide consistent and timely information to students about services available to them and their educational and labor options.
- Faculty and staff development and information sharing sessions particularly around student tracking would be helpful.
- Increased access to technology in general, and specifically, its potential use for effective student tracking and information sharing.
- The bolstering of tutoring and supplemental instruction should happen.