



UTILIZING THE LIVING-
LEARNING COMMUNITIES
BEST PRACTICES MODEL TO
SHAPE LLC MOUS

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Housing and Residence Life
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LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Participants will understand the rationale for the creation of an LLC MOU at the University of North Florida
- Participants will identify the building blocks of the most effective living-learning communities as presented in the LLCs Best Practices Model.

UNF STUDENT PROFILE

~14,000

Undergraduate Students

~3,600

Residential Students

± 1,000

FTIC Fall 2019 Students

~21% or more

First-Generation in College

~70%

First-Year Students choose
to live on campus

THE CHALLENGE

The University of North Florida (UNF) has struggled to meet the Florida Board of Governor's performance-based funding metrics for the past two years, particularly in the areas of retention and persistence.

Metric #4: Four-Year Graduation Rate

1 POINT

Currently, we lose 20% of FTIC fall students, then another 10% in 2nd year students. Our rate has improved 50% over 4 years, but we need 5% growth each year to gain a improvement points.

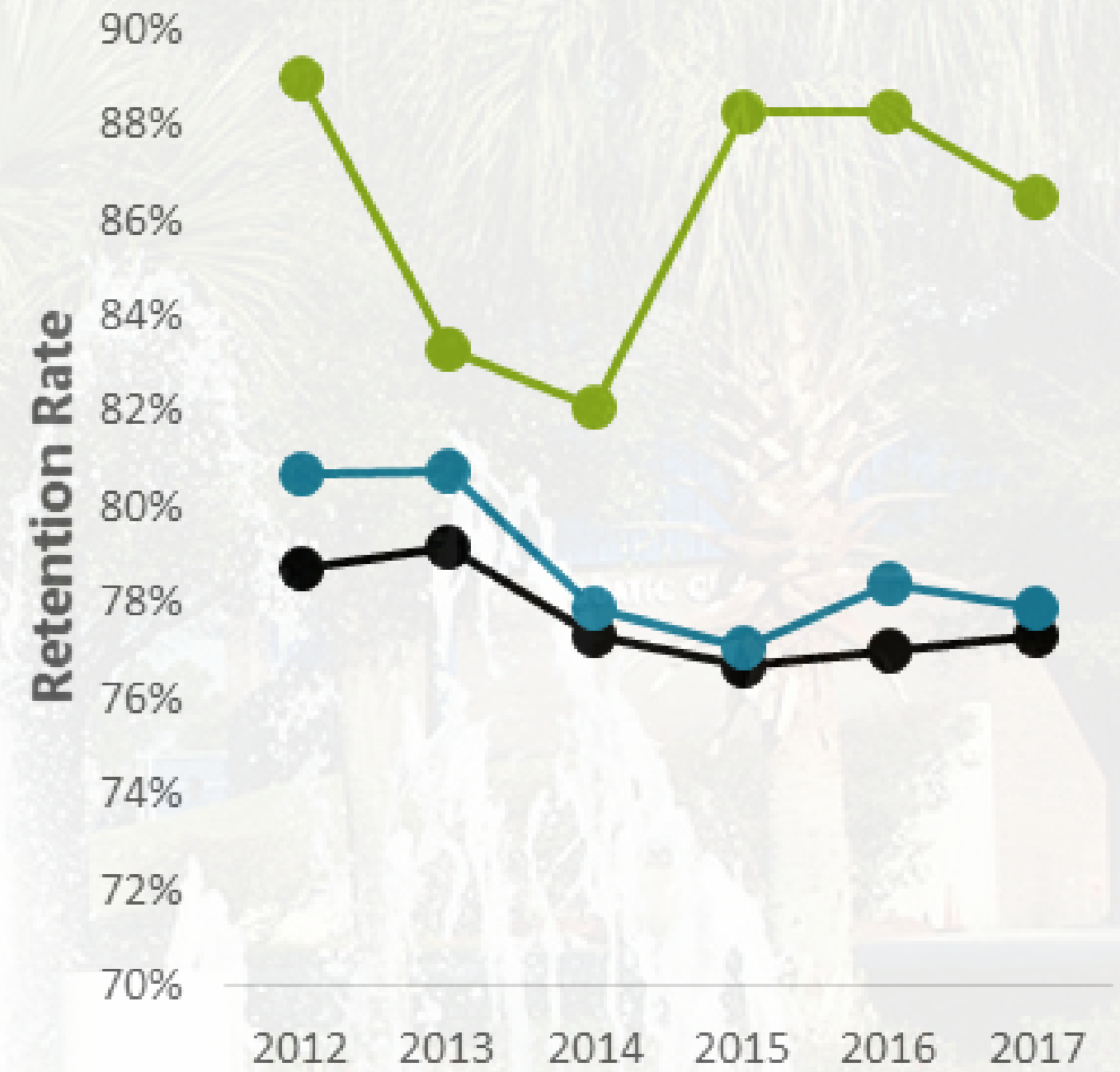
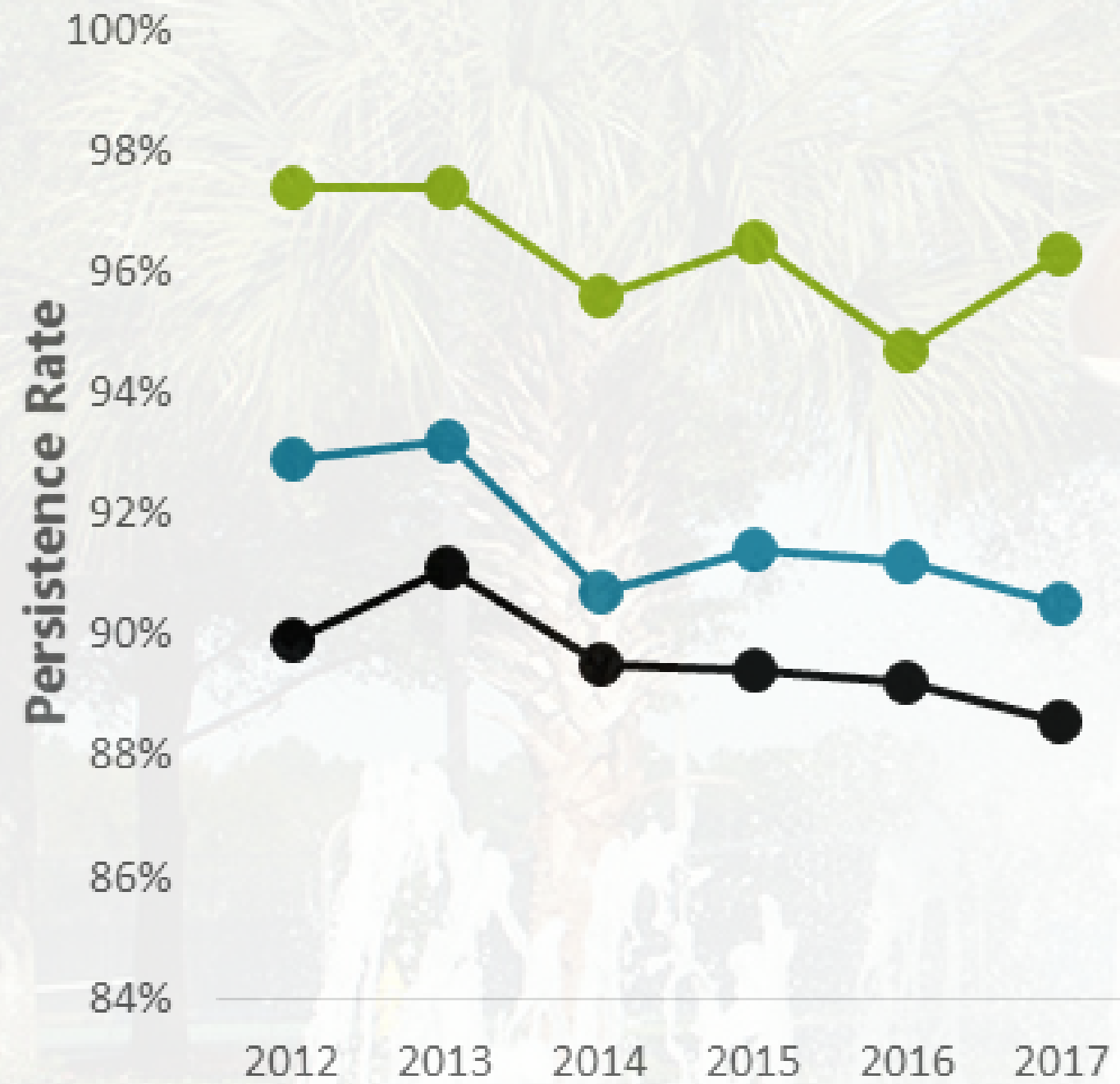
Metric #5: Academic Progress Rate (Retention to Second Fall)

4 POINTS

77.5% retention rate for Fall 2016 cohort; but you need 78.8% just to get one excellence point and 90% to get 10 excellence points

LLC students persist* and retain at consistently higher rates than on-campus students and students overall

Prepared by the Office of Housing & Residence Life and the Office of Assessment, April 2019



Source: 39,831 undergraduates enrolled between Fall 2010 and Fall 2017. We consider students who live in LLCs to be LLC students forever, meaning GPAs, persistence, and retention rates reflect students who lived in an LLC, ever.

*All differences between LLC and other students' persistence are statistically significant at $p < .10$ or greater



HOW ARE LLCs DEFINED AT
UNF?



4 New LLCs

LAUNCHING FALL 2019

RECOGNIZED A NEED TO
EVALUATE EXISTING LLCs

LLC SWOT Analysis

STRENGTHS

- Dedicated full time LLC staff
- Institutional commitment
- Engaged faculty and staff LLC partners

OPPORTUNITIES

- Growing support of assessment
- Undergraduate Studies funding LLCs
- Utilizing research to support at-risk students/dismantling barriers to entry

WEAKNESSES

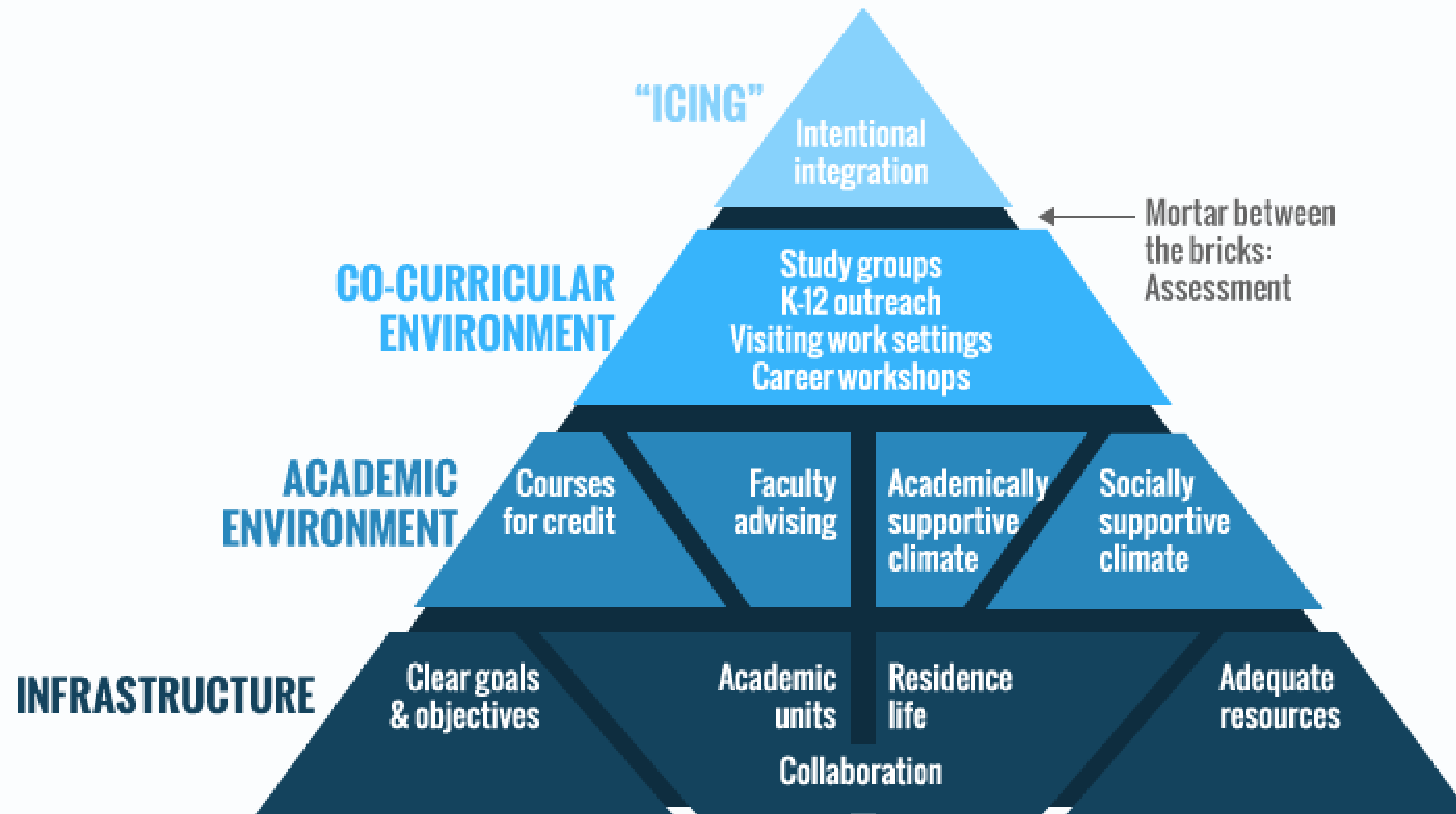
- Lack of receptiveness to growth and change
- Inconsistent LLC experiences for faculty, staff, and students
- Failure to recognize a variety of learning strategies

THREATS

- LLCs are not a part of P&T
- Institutional change
- Departments functioning in silos

BACK TO BASICS

L/L BEST PRACTICES BUILDING BLOCKS



1

Infrastructure

- Clear goals & objectives
- Partnerships between academics and housing
- Adequate resources

2

Academic Environment

- Courses for credit
- Faculty advising
- Academic and social support

3

Co-Curricular

- Out-of-Class experiences
- Sense of Belonging
- Career Development
- Outreach (k-12)

4

Intentional Integration

- "teachable moments"
- Leadership growth
- Connections

Let's Practice (1)

Pick a Living-Learning Community you might like to focus on. One that exists and needs attention OR a new community you hope to launch

Goals & Objectives

- What do you want your incoming students to learn from this experience?
- What is your program's learning objectives/outcomes?
- What are your long-term goals? How will you reach them?
- What are your short-term goals? How will you reach them?

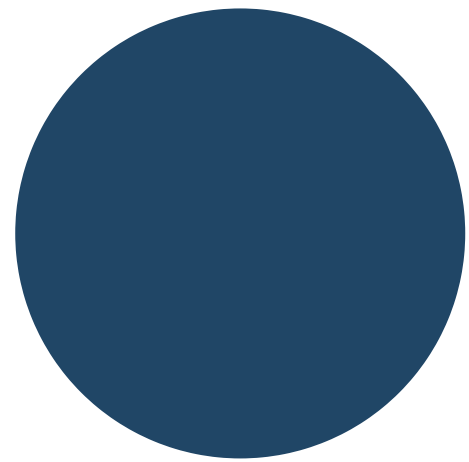
Partnerships with Academics & Housing

- What university "voices" will you need to ensure success (faculty, student affairs, students, etc.)?
- How will you go about identifying specific individuals?
- How will you invite individuals to serve on the council?
- Who is responsible for what community needs?

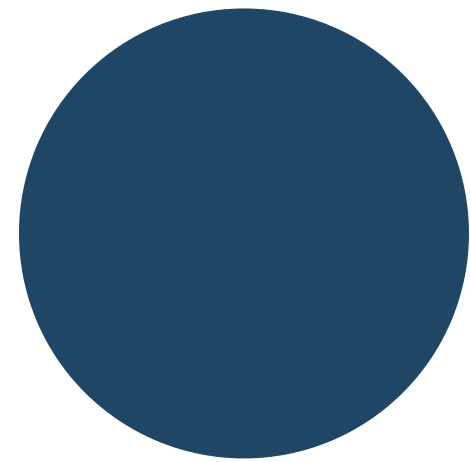
Resources

- What funding is needed for the successful implementation?
- Are there supplemental curricular and co-curricular components to incorporate?
- What buy-in can we create across the university to support the LLC?

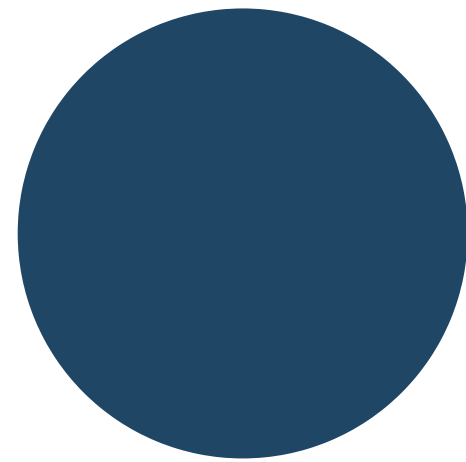
LAUNCHING A NEW LLC



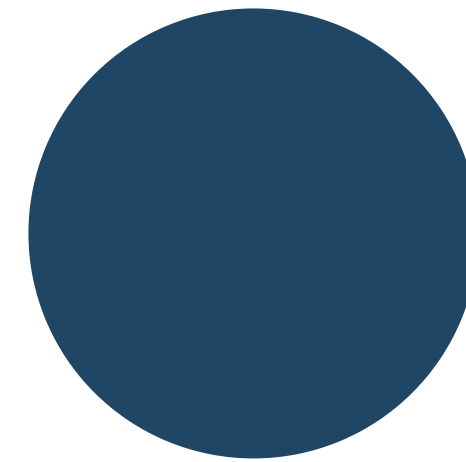
Mission: A formal summary of aims and values



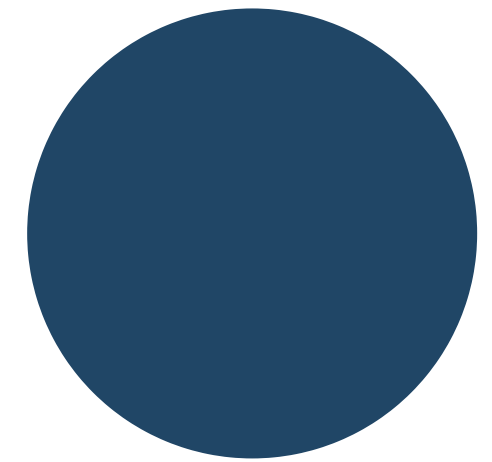
Learning Outcomes:
A statement of expectations articulating what students will know and gain



Goals: A desired result with a plan of action.



Advisory Council:
Group of stakeholders representative who strive toward supporting outcomes & goals



Program Expectations:
Methods to hold staff and students accountable to LLC experience

BUT HOW DO I BUILD AN MOU?

DEFINE EVERYONE'S ROLE

- Who is responsible for what?
- Who is physically involved in the LLC?
- Who assists behind the scenes?

BE SUSTAINABLE

- Anticipate change, but plan for consistency
- Outline processes like recruitment, selection, marketing, etc.

TIME IS A RESOURCE

- Outline amount of time expected to support LLC
- Consider course components, co-curricular, and administrative time

INCENTIVISE AND RECIPROCATE

- Define housings role and support structures
- Emphasize resources, funding, and peer leaders
- Customize and compromise

LLC Pro Devo Day

10-10:30

COFFEE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Join us for coffee and snacks as we do introductions and discuss the LLC AY 2019-2020 at-a-glance.

10:30-

THE LLC BEST PRACTICES MODEL

UNF models the LLC program on the LLC Best Practices Model. Learn key elements of the model and how they shape our work and the LLC MOU.

11:15

11:15-12

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

New LLCs will join Sheresa Divens to review Nuts and Bolts of starting an LLC. Returning LLCs will join Amy Lorenz to learn how to take your LLC to the next level.

12-12:30

PANEL WITH UNF PARTNERS

Hear from Student Academic Success Services, Institutional Research, and the Center of Community-Based Learning and how you can partner with your LLC.

12:30-1:30

LUNCH WITH RESIDENCE LIFE STAFF

We invite you to sit with your LLC Advisory Council to plan for the year.

1:30-2

FINAL REVIEW AND QUESTIONS

We will review the MOU for each LLC and answer any questions that remain from the day. We invite each LLC to schedule a follow-up meeting to finalize details for the Fall 2019 Retreat and semester.



OUTLINE YOUR MOU

"THERE WERE TWO WAYS TO BE
HAPPY: IMPROVE YOUR REALITY, OR
LOWER YOUR EXPECTATIONS"
— JODI PICOULT



GET IN TOUCH



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Contact Sheresa for LLC: day-to-day concerns, marketing, recruitment & selection, programming, logistics



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Contact Amy for LLC: New LLC development, strategic planning, campus partnerships, funding & assessment