



Action Report Summary

Recreation Education Action Steps by Responsible Party

Department:

1. Higher stakes opportunities for student involvement outside the classroom such as special sessions for Lehman students for related certifications (CPR, First Aid, aquatic therapy, certified youth sports official) and professional networking.
 - Partner(s): Office of Student Affairs.
 - Note: Mental health program, sports officiating might be of interest.
 - **Cost: \$0**
2. Provide new academic credits in the expanded BSRE requirements for students to develop job seeking materials and secure an internship site. Students can complete interviews, write professional cover letters and compile and internship file in an academic course. This provides the structure and information that students crave about their forthcoming internship and provides a dedicated funding stream for one step of the internship coordination process.
 - There is an opportunity to add a survey or foundations course in sport and recreation in the core requirements. Similarly, the newly developed course in inclusion and diversity could be added to the core requirements.
 - There is opportunity for expansion in student course numbers by expanding the number of courses required in the BSRE.
 - The faculty in the BSRE may consider pursuing credit for one or more courses as part of the Pathways curriculum at Lehman. Colleges across the United States rely on recreation education programs to meet college or university-wide requirements for social science general education, basic management training or domestic diversity course requirements through BSRE offerings.
 - **Cost: \$5,000**
3. The internship program would benefit from clear differentiation between the therapeutic recreation internship requirements and the internships in other areas. Ideally, different faculty or staff member will be identified to manage these two distinct sets of requirements.
 - **Cost: \$0**
4. The articulation agreement that exists is bearing fruit for Lehman and efforts to develop additional articulation agreements as planned should remain a high priority.
 - Note: Collaboration with the School, Enrollment Management, and the Office of the Provost.
 - **Cost: \$0**
5. Monitor national trends regarding therapeutic recreation. Similar changes have been seen in athletic training—athletic training has tightened restrictions for accreditation and shifted requirements to the masters' level. The potential for this to occur in therapeutic recreation also exists. Right now, there is

a national credential offered by the American Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA), but individual states have legislation that requires additional, more rigorous legal requirements state by state. Legislation relating to certification in New York or New Jersey as well as the national trend toward a Master of Science requirement are both potential threats to the long-term future of the BSRE emphasis in therapeutic recreation. This simply bears watching and staying up to date on developments in the field.

- Cost: \$0

6. An attempt should be made to make their experience in the MS more valuable [track without a heavy emphasis on research] or to communicate better options for these students [students enrolling for pay increases or career advancement] before they begin their MS degree program... Small niche pockets of students in one MS program are a common challenge in Recreation Education. Selecting a target market or honing the degree to suit student needs are options.

- Cost: \$0

7. Consider national program accreditation for the Bachelor of Science in Recreation Administration with the National Recreation and Park Association. This non-profit governing body and advocate for recreation and park professionals offers the most widely recognized academic accreditation.

- Cost: \$0

8. Administrators are encouraged to continue formalizing advising. It is recommended that adjunct faculty serve as mentors for students while full time tenure earning faculty and Lehman staff have formal roles in course recommendation and degree planning with students.

- Note: Professional development
- In collaboration with Enrollment Management and the Provost.
- Cost: \$5,000

School:

9. Invest more in training and mentoring so that the next generation of young faculty have more guidance to find their way in the teaching, service, and administrative tasks they will take on. A center for faculty excellence and online training series should be developed and available as resources at Lehman College.

- Partner(s): Dean's Office in collaboration with the Offices of Online Education and the Provost
- Cost: \$5,000

10. Effort should be made to retain current faculty as they have begun to build this institutional knowledge and connect with community partners and alumni in the area.

- Partner(s): Dean's Office in collaboration with the Office of the Provost
- Note: Professional development
- Cost: \$5,000

11. Lehman administration should make every effort to seek and hire faculty and adjunct faculty who better reflect the race, ethnicity, and international backgrounds of Lehman students. This is a difficult task in higher education broadly and in Recreation Education specifically. Whenever able, MS graduates may be nurtured and mentored into these roles as current adjunct faculty select new roles or experiences outside of Lehman.
 - Partner(s): Dean's Office in collaboration with the Office of the Provost

Office of the Provost:

12. A dedicated staff member, preferably non-tenure earning, is needed to facilitate the internship program. Also, ongoing memorandum of agreements with frequent host sites can and should be used. Any effort to standardize this process is going to be time consuming but likely to pay dividends.
 - Note: Suggest an aHEO series to management internships across the school
 - Cost: \$113,099 (\$74,900 HEO Associate + 51% fringe benefits)