

ITF Workstream Monthly Report: Community Engagement

December 6, 2024

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Monthly Report:

Development of a one-page document describing the Key Elements of Being an Intellectual, Cultural and Community Asset

- Conversations during Workstream meetings and individual responses to the question “What does it mean to be an Intellectual, Cultural and Community asset” were used to develop a one-page “Key Elements” document
- The document was shared with the workstream, edits were made over the course of a few rounds of review
- The document was shared, along with a feedback form, to the broader ITF group in advance of the 12/6 ITF meeting.
- The current version of the document can be found here: [One-pager](#)

Workstream Meeting: 12/3/24

- Feedback on the one pager document so far:
 - One review asked if we could add more specificity to the document
 - We decided that the philosophy document is not the right place for specifics about how we engage, but that we’ll begin to categorize and dig into the ways we engage with the community as we tackle deliverable 2
 - Consider defining community more broadly than just Lake Forest
 - Define or clarify why it’s an obligation and not just an opportunity for the college
 - Determine who the audience of the document should be
- Discussion of Presentation on Friday:
 - Lindsay to give the 10-minute presentation
 - Outline
 - Overview of our deliverables
 - Deliverable 1: Review of One-pager and feedback and next steps
 - Deliverable 2: Begin to categorize ways we engage, hold key conversations with stakeholders, assess whether we’re meeting needs, begin work to determine where staff and budget for community engagement should live

ITF Meeting: 12/6/24

- Community Engagement Workstream Presentation
 - Overview of our workstream deliverables
 - Deliverable 1:
 - Review of One-pager document and key themes we've seen in the feedback
 - Next steps for the one-pager:
 - Review feedback, make any adjustments
 - Include parts of the document on the College's community page on the website
 - Begin work on Deliverable 2
 - Our approach for Deliverable 2:
 - Identify and categorize the ways we currently engage with the community
 - Schedule conversations with stakeholders to identify how the community wants to engage with us and what we want from the community
 - Community members
 - Students
 - Faculty and staff
 - Assess whether we're meeting those needs and make recommendations on opportunities
 - Begin work to establish Community Advisory Council and determine where staff and budget for community engagement work should live
- Q&A:
 - Q: Student asked about the plethora of health clubs in the area and how we'll compete or decide what to recommend in terms of our programming and offerings.
 - A: We're not competing with them. Ours is a much different family experience that serves as an entry point to the College via Athletics. We're not a health spa. We also will get input from the community and use a Community Advisory Council to help make informed decisions about programming and offerings.
 - Q: Faculty member said she liked the idea of defining the community as concentric circles. Then noted that deliverable #2 is only focused on LF.
 - A: We'll update the deliverable and have it reflect a broader sense of the community including Chicago and what Jenny Larsen is doing in the Center for Chicago Programming.
 - A2: Near the close of the meeting this came up again and the suggestion that we need to just focus on what we can do and do well in our closest community rather than trying to be everything to everybody and being ineffective.

- Q: Staff member asked if anyone is attending Lake Forest City Council meetings or working with the city.
 - A: A team met with the city this week and President Baren is presenting to the City Council. We are also recommending that the creation of a Community Advisory Council help ensure that this engagement continues.