



Offer meaningful co-curricular experiences

Offering meaningful co-curricular experiences that are accessible for students of varying backgrounds encourages community among students and can enhance learning by connecting classroom concepts to real-world applications and professional pathways. These opportunities foster a stronger sense of belonging, build practical skills, and provide students with experiences that support their academic and career growth.

Some simple, evidence-based steps to help ensure that co-curricular experiences are inclusive and meaningful include:

1. Actively providing and promoting open recruitment to all majors.
2. Paying students for internships/research so that financial constraints don't limit participation.
3. Ensuring that expectations are clear and the work has meaningful contributions.
4. Promoting collaboration, holding regular lab meetings, and encouraging students to present research or co-author a paper.
5. Supporting students' attendance at multiple types of professional conferences to increase their sense of belonging in the field.
6. Taking advantage of local experiences, which tend to be more accessible and affordable than opportunities that require greater travel.

7. Connecting with outside opportunities and funding sources for student experiences.
-