ALI Workshop 2 – Handouts & Activities

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1. Activity #1 - Review Homework #1 in small group discussion
   Each individual should answer the following questions in 3-4 minutes per person (15 minutes total)
   A. Introduce yourself to the other group members
   B. Share what you learned from homework #1, specifically address the following questions:
      i. Share one way that the interviewees’ interpretations differ from how your team interprets the mission?
      ii. Share one item that surprised you about the interviewees’ answers.
2. Purpose and Role of Program Mission Statements (Supplement to Slides # 11-15 on PowerPoint handouts)

1. Communicates a broad vision of the fundamental purposes & values of the program
2. Provides an important view of what matters most to faculty (Allen 2004)
3. Shares program identity
4. Provides a touchstone for all other activities, including assessment activities
5. Clarifies the purpose of the program (why it exists, what it hopes to accomplish, etc.)
6. Provides a focus for the curriculum and other program activities
7. Demonstrates the program’s alignment to the institutional and college mission
8. Describes the community the program is designed to serve
9. Easily understood by multiple audiences
10. Strong mission statements:
    a. Define educational purpose distinctive to degree and fields of study
    b. Reflect how program contributes to careers of students graduating from program
    c. Use concrete, descriptive language
    d. Provide broad overview
3. Activity #2 – Critique mission statements
   a. Critique Economics’ mission statements using the questions below

   **Economics Pre-ALI mission statement:**
   The Economics departmental vision is made up of three interconnected goals. The first is to enhance the economic literacy of UNC students by offering courses that contribute to general education, Environmental Studies, Life of the Mind, International Studies, Social Sciences, Women's Studies, and Honors. The second goal is to provide our majors and minors with a solid and balanced grounding in discipline content and skills in applying content to real world settings, problem solving and analytics. The third element of our vision is to provide exemplary service to the community outside UNC. This includes local community work in economic analysis, economic content training for teachers, and scholarly contributions to the external academic community that benefits the development and dissemination of knowledge to colleagues and their students.

   **Economics Post-ALI mission statement:**
   The mission of the UNC Economics Department is to prepare our graduates to understand how individuals and societies allocate relatively scarce resources to competing uses in both the private and public sectors. The Economics faculty strive to enhance the students' ability to use logic, deductive reasoning and critical thinking to make informed decisions for effective civic engagement.

i. What differentiates the pre-ALI and post-ALI mission statements?

ii. Why is the pre-ALI mission statement weak?

iii. Why is the post-ALI mission statement stronger?

iv. How could the post be improved?

v. Share your responses with the larger group
b. Critique your own program’s mission statement in your small groups using the checklist below. All participants’ mission statements that were available from the UNC website are included in Appendix A on page 5, including UNC’s and the colleges’ mission statements for reference.

Place an X in the Yes column if you think that the mission completely addresses the topic in the question. Place an X in the No column if you think that the mission completely does not address the topic in the question. Place an X in the Partially column if you think that the mission partially addresses the topic in the question based on your analysis of the mission.

c. How could your mission statement be revised to better reflect the 4 key items discussed today?

d. What challenges do you anticipate in working on mission in your program? What are some solutions?

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<tr>
<th>Check List Questions</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Partially</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Is the mission clear &amp; concise?</td>
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<td>2. Does the mission identify the program?</td>
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<td>3. Does the mission state the purpose of the program?</td>
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<td>4. Does the mission indicate the primary functions or activities of the program?</td>
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<td>5. Does the mission indicate who the stakeholders are?</td>
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<td>6. Does the mission identify the values of the program?</td>
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<td>7. Does the program mission support the mission of the college (you will need the college mission provided)?</td>
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<td>8. Does the program mission support the mission of UNC (you will need the UNC mission or vision statement provided)?</td>
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<td>9. Does the mission serve as a foundation for the program’s student learning outcomes?</td>
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<td>10. If the program has an external accreditation or some other entity that oversees the program, does the program mission align with the expectations of the external accreditor or oversight entity?</td>
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4. APPENDIX

ALI Cohort 3 2014-2015
Mission statements prior to participation in ALI
Statements found on program’s website

Africana Studies
UNC’s Africana Studies program offers an interdisciplinary and multicultural curriculum that promotes the study of the history, culture, philosophy, economy, and political experience of all people of African descent with special emphasis on African Americans.

Criminal Justice (Graduate Program)
The University of Northern Colorado’s Master of Arts in Criminal Justice is designed for working professionals who wish to further their education in the field of criminal justice by completing a rigorous online program. The program’s focus is leadership, management, policy, planning, research, and recognized best practices in the various parts of the criminal justice system. In addition to providing a program that meets the needs of working professionals, the academic rigor and research focus of UNC’s MACJ program also prepares students for careers in research, teaching, and continued graduate education.

English Composition
The study of literature, language, and literacy is at the very heart of a liberal education. The English major is excellent preparation for any profession or occupation that stresses language usage, such as writing and teaching-related fields. Graduates of this program will be prepared to enter a variety of professional and graduate level programs, including law, theology, medicine (with appropriate science and mathematics preparation), library science, communications, media and business.

Software Engineering – not found on the program’s website

Science Education Elementary – not found on the program’s website

Science Education Secondary – not found on the program’s website

Recreation, Tourism, and Hospitality
The mission of the undergraduate Recreation, Tourism and Hospitality program at UNC is to develop well-educated citizens that provide healthful leisure and recreation experiences at the state, region, and national levels in order to improve quality of life, provide leadership and service to communities, and contribute to the advancement of the profession. The role of the Recreation, Tourism and Hospitality program is to provide advising, course work, professional experiences, career assistance, opportunities for individualized study, research, and supervised community service to students majoring and minoring in Recreation, Tourism and Hospitality and to coordinate with other units in the College Of Natural and Health Sciences to satisfy the respective degree requirements.

Teaching American Sign Language
The Teaching American Sign Language (TASL) Program is a distance delivered master’s degree with required onsite summer sessions which prepares instructors to teach American Sign Language (ASL) in a number of settings including secondary and post-secondary settings. The focus of this program is on pedagogical coursework as applicable to teaching ASL as a foreign or as a modern language, not learning or mastering ASL. Therefore, students must demonstrate ASL proficiency prior to acceptance into the program.
University Libraries
The University of Northern Colorado Libraries serves the university’s mission by providing an environment and resources for learning, research, and problem solving in the academic community. Library personnel serve the entire range of scholarship through the selection, organization, retrieval, interpretation, and conservation of intellectual resources and provide instruction for faculty, staff, and students through courses, class sessions, and one-on-one consultations. The University Libraries also extends its services beyond the university community through outreach activities.

UNC Mission Statement
The University of Northern Colorado shall be a comprehensive baccalaureate and specialized graduate research university with selective admission standards. The University shall offer a comprehensive array of baccalaureate programs and master’s and doctoral degrees primarily in the field of education. The University of Northern Colorado has statewide authority to offer graduate programs for the preparation of educational personnel.

UNC Vision Statement (May want to choose this statement for alignment purposes)
The University of Northern Colorado strives to be a leading student-centered university that promotes effective teaching, lifelong learning, the advancement of knowledge, research, and a commitment to service. Graduates are educated in the Liberal Arts and professionally prepared to live and contribute effectively in a rapidly changing, technologically advanced society.

Description: The University of Northern Colorado is a comprehensive baccalaureate and specialized graduate research university with a continuing commitment to its historical role in the preparation of educators. The University offers a broad range of undergraduate and graduate programs in the arts, sciences, humanities, business, human sciences and education. The array and quality of UNC programs provide a unique resource to Colorado. All students are required to study in the liberal arts tradition, which prepares them to think and act responsibly in a dynamic, diverse and global society. Multicultural content and interdisciplinary programs enrich academic experiences. University curricula are designed to improve students' competencies in critical thinking, communication, and problem solving, leadership, and technological applications.

As a Carnegie Research Intensive Institution, the University of Northern Colorado's graduate programs emphasize advanced scholarship within a discipline and acquisition of professional abilities for career advancement. Graduate education includes a variety of master’s degrees that complement the University’s mission and purposes and a select number of doctoral programs that emphasize scholarship and research, clinical practice, pedagogy, or performance. The University provides a full range of student support services and recreational opportunities. The James A. Michener Library and the Music Library provide information resources through sophisticated technology and established collections.

College of Education and Behavioral Sciences
The College of Education and Behavioral Sciences contributes to the betterment of society through research, professional service and the preparation of individuals who are skilled lifelong learners capable of working effectively with diverse populations in an evolving global community.
College of Humanities & Social Sciences Mission Statement

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Northern Colorado is dedicated to the highest quality of education for undergraduate and graduate students. Grounded in the liberal arts, the college is integral to the comprehensive mission of the university. The disciplines of the humanities and social sciences engage the methodologies, techniques, and technologies that prepare students to think creatively and critically about past, current and evolving social and global complexities.

This engagement transforms lives: preparing students for personal and professional success, and contributing to the betterment of the larger community. Faculty scholarship adds to the sum of human knowledge and enriches culture. Manifesting itself in the classroom, in professional venues, and in service to the public, it is expressed through a variety of theoretical, creative, and applied endeavors. HSS fosters the pursuit of intellectual and cultural diversity while educating its students within a tradition of academic excellence.

Monfort College of Business
To provide excellent primarily undergraduate and focused graduate business programs and related learning opportunities that prepare individuals for successful careers and responsible citizenship in a global society. We accomplish this by focusing our efforts in teaching, research and service to benefit student learning.

- Teaching: Our primary purpose is to provide the highest quality education to students most of whom come from Colorado and the surrounding states, by having professionally and academically qualified faculty who blend theoretical foundations with practical applications.
- Scholarship: We value all forms of scholarship that advance our teaching and each discipline defines its research balance based on a discipline-specific focus. Given the applied nature of our Accounting program, it has chosen a research agenda focused on contributions to practice and pedagogical research. Our other programs have chosen a research agenda based primarily on discipline-based research, while valuing other forms of scholarship as well.
- Service: We provide value through service to our stakeholders including our students, colleagues, the college, the university the academic discipline and the community, state and region in which we are located.

College of Natural and Health Sciences
The College of Natural and Health Sciences at the University of Northern Colorado serves the people of Colorado and the nation through the advancement and dissemination of fundamental knowledge, by providing high-quality undergraduate and graduate instruction, and by applying knowledge to solve problems in areas of natural and health sciences and related areas of education. To achieve this mission, the College supports:

1. Foundational undergraduate education, academic degrees and professional preparation in natural, health, human and mathematical sciences to prepare students to understand and use these disciplines in their lives and careers in the 21st Century.
2. Focused graduate programs in natural and health sciences and related areas of education, preparing teachers, college professors, researchers, and other professionals.
3. Basic and applied research in all areas of the natural and health sciences represented in the college, including externally supported activities and both undergraduate and graduate research experiences.
5. Outreach and service programs supporting K-12 teachers and students, health and service professionals, schools, health care organizations, businesses, and government agencies.