Building Community at Master’s Focused Institutions

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Council of Graduate Schools Annual Meeting
December 7, 2012
Topics

- Overview of La Salle University
- Lasallian values
  - Excellence in teaching
  - The Importance of Community
  - Service to the poor
  - Education that fosters faith development
- Best Practices
La Salle University
Philadelphia, PA

- 6,567 students, including 2,051 grad students
- 22 graduate programs including 3 doctoral
- 250 full-time faculty
- Urban, comprehensive, Master’s II
- De La Salle Christian Brothers University
- 150th Anniversary

http://www.lasalle2.org/
The Importance of Community

- Effective teaching and learning is a communal experience
  - “Respect for each individual student
  - Authentic community among students, faculty, and staff
  - where persons meet persons
  - mind speaks to mind and heart speaks to heart
  - learning experience is shared with persons who can call each other friends.
  - Decisions are a product of a collaboration that reflects the mutual purposes and best thinking of the community.”

http://www.lasalle.edu/missionoffice/index.php?page=values&group=living
“Respect for each individual student”

2011-12 Philosophy of Graduate Education

- Professional, practical, and personal graduate education implemented in its academic programs in a collaborative endeavor with the students.

- Goals crucial to graduate education:
  - Scholarly inquiry in the pursuit of truth, evidenced by its faculty and students alike, is nourished in all graduate programs.
  - Through their research and professional aspects, graduate programs prepare students for academic and professional careers and service.
  - Graduate programs promote lifelong learning in response to the changing and diverse needs of the 21st century workplace and the global community.

“Create authentic community among students, faculty, and staff”

- Student Appreciation Receptions
- Communication with online students
- Graduate Commencement
“Where persons meet persons”

- Graduate Director Appreciation Luncheon
- Graduate-Professional Student Appreciation Week
- New Graduate Student Reception
“Where persons meet persons”

- Graduate Student Association
  - Survey administered
  - 359 respondents

![Concept]

![Bar chart showing opinions of respondents: Bad idea, So-so idea, Good idea, No opinion]
Role of a GSA

- Enhance Communication
- Promote student learning
- Networking
- Job Bank

- None
- Slightly
- Moderate
- Very
- Extremely
- No opinion
How likely are you to participate?

![Bar chart showing participation likelihood for different categories: Academic, Social, Advocacy, Community Service. The chart indicates the percentage of respondents for each category, with options ranging from 'Very unlikely' to 'Very likely'.](image-url)
“Where persons meet persons”

- Expanded outreach
  - Web page [www.lasalle.edu/gradstudies](http://www.lasalle.edu/gradstudies)
  - Facebook page [www.facebook.com/lasallegrad](http://www.facebook.com/lasallegrad)
  - Twitter account [www.twitter.com/LaSalle_Grad](http://www.twitter.com/LaSalle_Grad), with handle @LaSalle_Grad
  - E-newsletters
Welcome to Graduate Studies at La Salle University. This University, located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, has 22 different programs that include master's and doctoral level programs in the arts and sciences, business, nursing and health sciences, and professional studies.

Graduate education at La Salle University strives to meet the goals of scholarly inquiry, preparation for academic and professional careers, and lifelong learning in response to the changing and diverse needs of the 21st century workplace and the global community.

La Salle University believes in a personal, practical, and professional education in a collaborative effort between faculty and students. Furthermore, our graduate programs emphasize a balance between theory and practice. As a student, you may demonstrate knowledge through a variety of practices, which include clinical experiences, case study analysis, discussions, and a wide assortment of projects.

Our primary goal at La Salle University is to create a strong learning environment. To achieve this goal, La Salle University's faculty are outstanding in their fields. Professors remain active in their fields of study by conducting research, and demonstrating their knowledge through publications, presentations, and leadership experience in many different organizations. The La Salle University-Connolly Library offers many different resources that include thousands of books, databases, and an interlibrary loan program with other universities throughout the state of Pennsylvania. At La Salle University, educational opportunities abound.
Grad Studies Web Site Activity

http://www.lasalle.edu - http://www.la...
www.lasalle.edu [DEFAULT]

Pages

% of pageviews: 100.00%

Explorer

Site Usage

Pageviews

Facebook Site
www.facebook.com/lasallegrad
Facebook Daily Reach

The number of people who have seen any content associated with your Page. (Unique Users)

Facebook Site Activity

LaSalle Grad
@LaSalle_Grad
Welcome to the official Twitter of La Salle University Graduate Studies
Philadelphia, Pa · http://facebook.com/lasallegrad

Tweets
Following
Followers
Favorites
Lists

Similar to you
Cleveland Clinic @ClevelandClinic
kevin baron @k_baron15
Philly.com @phillydotcom

Edit your profile
8 TWEETS
9 FOLLOWING
25 FOLLOWERS

LaSalle Grad @LaSalle_Grad
Congrats to Dr. Kevin Grauke (English), on the publication of his collection of short stories, Shadows of Men bit.ly/MZQ4wl

LaSalle Grad @LaSalle_Grad
Dr. Zuzelo (Doctorate of Nursing Practice Program) has been inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing. bit.ly/Vs56ok

LaSalle Grad @LaSalle_Grad
The Explorer Connection’s Fall 2012 Explorer Café lineup has been released! Check it out at bit.ly/SJrJUQ.
“Where mind speaks to mind”

- Membership in CGS
- Heritage Explorer Café
- Faculty Reading Group
- GradEdge joint article on graduate culture
“Where heart speaks to heart”

- 150th Anniversary Day of Service
- Connection with Academic and Learning Support Workshops
- Workshops about international outreach, recruitment, admissions, English Language Institute
“Where the learning experience is shared with persons who can call each other friends.”

- Poster sessions, lectures
- Graduate Annual to be published in Digital Commons
“Decisions, ideally, are a product of a collaboration that reflects the mutual purposes and best thinking of the community”

- Graduate Management Team
- Faculty Advisory Board
- Strategic Planning Task Force
- Structure Task Force
- Provost + Deans + Directors Meetings
- Brown Bag Lunch Discussions
Summary: Best Practices for Success

- Align with mission and strategic plan
- Focus on intellectual atmosphere
- Begin with pilot activities
- Address all constituencies
- Include appreciation and recognition activities
Questions and Feedback?
For further information, contact:

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