A UNIVERSAL APPROACH TO A CULTURE OF INTEGRITY: "A FAMILY BUILT ON TRUST"

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Reimagining a culture of integrity must include all stakeholders such as institutional alumni, current faculty, current staff, current students, and future students. Not long ago, the presenter's institution implemented a new brand for academic integrity on campus, "A Family Built on Trust." The institution attempts to be the family away from home for its students as well as a family relationship for its employees. A key aspect of this family built on trust is the "US" in the word "trust" signifying that the trust must not only come from the educators or administration, but it should come from all stakeholders of the institution.

This presentation will examine both the idea "A Family Built on Trust" as a conceptual framework of a culture of integrity while sharing actual examples from the presenter's institution. The presentation will examine how institutional stakeholders (institutional alumni, administration, faculty, staff, students, and future student) must build and maintain a culture of integrity by looking at what they can do and how they can uphold the fundamental values of academic integrity (International Center for Academic Integrity, 2021) to have the family built on trust.

Institutional Alumni: Alumni already have their degree or certificate from your institution; however, they are relying on the current population to maintain the integrity of that degree. This presentation will examine the need for active alumni in various aspects of the university from assisting in job placement for students to assisting in the maintaining the culture of integrity beyond the classroom.

Current Administration: Administration is often the group who has decision making authority. This presentation will give ideas on how to interact with the administration to show them the necessity for a culture of integrity at the institution.

Current Faculty and Staff: Current faculty and staff are the ones who will often be holding each other and students accountable for infractions of integrity. This group must be a major component of the culture of integrity so that they truly understand the mission and reason for such a push at the institution (Saddiqui, 2016).

Current Students: Of all the stakeholders to build a culture of integrity, students must be the primary group to include. Students hold each other to high standard and look to each other for societal cues on how to act and what to do. If students are working to uphold a standard of integrity, they will be able to be influencers of other students (Morris, 2018). This presentation will examine ways various institutions have used students to assist in building a culture of integrity.

Future Students: For some institutions, recruitment of future students is just as meaningful as retaining current students. The reputation of the institution plays a factor in that recruitment. Therefore, if the reputation is one lacking integrity, the recruitment process may fail or could possibly recruit those students who lack the integrity the institution would want.

Community Beyond the Institution: Part of the importance of building a culture of integrity at your institution is that when the students leave the institution, integrity is part of who they are and they then impact the community beyond the institution.

Overall, this presentation will give attendees practical ways to get stakeholders involved in creating a culture of academic integrity formulated around the six fundamental values of academic integrity.

REFERENCES

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