Nothing to Do & No Time to Do It

Why students fail to get involved in co-curricular activities
Students in leadership programs score higher than Purdue overall

- Commitment
- Congruence
- Controversy with civility
- Common Purpose
- Collaboration
- Consciousness of self
- Citizenship
- Resiliency

SAO Sample vs. Purdue
Purdue students overall score lower than the US benchmark

- Commitment
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National benchmark vs Purdue scores.
Strong effect among leadership participants

Overall leadership proficiency (1-5)

Leadership conference
Leadership retreat
Lecture or workshop
Leadership course

- Never
- Once
- Sometimes
- Often
No improvement among all students

Leadership proficiency (compound score)

- Civility
- Consciousness
- Congruence
- Collaboration
- Citizenship

- Freshmen
- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior
Varied effects on different campus groups
There’s no tradeoff...
...between involvement & success

- Involved students also have higher career ambitions
- Involved students also get more job offers
- Involved students also have higher GPAs

Source: MSL, NACE
About $\frac{1}{5}$ of students are not involved

Source: Purdue Graduating Student Learning Outcomes Survey
Many sources agree

- Purdue’s Graduating Students Learning Outcomes Survey
  - 20% report no leadership activities

- National Survey of Student Engagement
  - 24% say zero hours/week on co-curricular activities

- Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement
  - Incoming freshmen had high expectations that were not met

- Foundations of Excellence Student Survey
  - “Updated/centralized location for information on clubs” rated as one of the top ways Purdue could have improved students transition to college

- Multi-Institutional Study of Leadership
No matter how you phrase the question...

- I have never been an involved member of a college organization.
- I am not a member of any clubs or organizations now.
- I haven’t done any community service in the past month.
- I haven’t done any of the activities on this list.
- In a typical week I spend zero hours on co-curricular activities.
I’m not a member of any club or organization
I’ve never been an involved member in a college organization.
Reasons for non-involvement

- There is not enough information about how to join
- Clubs are not interesting or have no value
- Clubs aren’t open or welcoming; clubs are expensive
- This is not the right time for me to join
- Personal concerns constrain my activities on campus
- Different priorities
- Not enough time
- General disdain
Purdue isn’t getting the message to all students

Source: Foundations of Excellence student survey
Conclusions

- Some student are involved and don’t know it
- Some are non-involved for good reasons
- Some are genuinely left out