Initiative Name: Community Democracy Project (CDP)

Institutional Affiliations: College of Public Service and Institute of Government

Initiative Components:

- 10 member committee
  - 2 College of Public Service Faculty Members
  - 5 TSU Students
    - 3 Undergraduate Students
      - Urban Studies major
      - Social Work major
      - Outside CPS major
    - 2 Graduate Students
      - MPA student
      - MSW student
  - 3 Community Leaders
    - 1 public sector employee or elected official
    - 1 nonprofit sector employee
    - 1 local religious leader

- The committee will convene during the Spring 2017 semester. During this meeting, the committee will discuss strategies for generating student engagement, as well as how best to ensure optimal outcomes.

- The key activity of the Community Development Project is as follows:
  - Campus Needs Assessment Survey (designed by the CDP Committee)
    - Deployed from the first day of the Fall semester through the end of the Fall Student Study Break (end of September/beginning of October)
    - Student committee members will be tasked with helping to ensure a robust response from TSU’s student population
    - The needs assessment will be for students-only
  - Analyzing Campus Needs Assessment Data
    - During October and November, the CDP Committee will analyze the data collected by the Campus Needs Assessment survey.
    - The goal is to identify the key themes that emerge from the collected data, and then create a priority list for the identified “action areas.”
  - Development of Action Plans
    - During December and January, the CDP Committee will develop action plans that correspond to the Top 3 “action areas” on the Campus Needs Assessment Priority List.
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- Campus-wide Rollout of Action Plans
  - During the month of February, the CDP Committee will hold several sessions where they share:
    - the data that was collected via the Campus Needs Assessment Survey,
    - the priority list that was developed,
    - the Top 3 “action areas” that were identified, and
    - the strategies for taking action to improve TSU, Nashville, and Middle Tennessee.

- Taking Action
  - During March and April, the CDP Committee will be heavily involved in ensuring that each of the Action Plans get initiated in a healthy and sustainable manner.

- Reporting Out to TSU and the Community
  - In May, a report will be developed that captures the key information gathered during the Campus Needs Assessment Survey, as well as the Action Plans that are currently being deployed.
  - The 2017-2018 Community Democracy Project report will be hosted on the College of Public Service’s Institute of Government’s webpage(s).

- The current plan is to initiate this process every academic year.