

McPherson College

## ***Community by Design 2.0 Open Session***

March 28, 2022

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Thoughts on mentoring as a strategy?

- Think broader about mentoring to include peer/peer and mentors for faculty and staff
- Systematic approach is needed—training, matching, expectations, intentional
- Students need multiple mentors in case one doesn't work out—getting multiple perspectives is key
- Can we communicate “who” is on a particular student? i.e., Team You
- What are the new rules of advising and what is the new role of faculty?
- Need some guiding principles or best practices
- Student Employment is a great opportunity to mentor students
- Big Brother/Big Sister Model
- The Greek goddess Athena appeared to the war hero Odysseus in the form of Mentor

Wellness as a strategy to define and understand our community?

- Holistic Health is important—physical, mental, social, cultural, professional, financial
- Finding balance is important to a healthy community
- Can we create a balanced wellness scorecard for the community?
- Wellness connected to both institution and individual
- Wellness could be a part of the wellness of students
- Need to get to know each other personally, deeper as we scale and growth the institution
- Like the idea of using the term “community” rather than “team”

Thoughts on General Education?

- Simplify the general education categories is a good idea
- Interdisciplinary approach
- Consider the setting—technology, outdoors—the more diverse and flexible the better
- Consider pedagogy enhancements rather than curriculum changes—experiential learning, discussion based vs. lecture based
- How can we address lack of student preparedness in general education?