

## **Annual Academic Assessment Report**

### **(Cross-Sector Alliance Certificate)**

**(6/22/2022)**

- The former program director of the cross-sector alliance program retired, so we are in the process of revisiting the cross-sector alliance certificate and learning objectives of the program. An assessment for this program has yet to be done, but it is something we will develop in the coming months and offer it to the newer cohort of students. Currently, our learning objectives for students within the program include:
  - 1) To understand each of the three sectors, public, private, and third sector/non-profits.
  - 2) To explain how each sector relates to one another in the current political climate.
  - 3) To comprehend the challenges and benefits that come with working among sectors.
  - 4) To assess the history, economics, and underlying theories driving each of the sectors.

We will begin assessing these with the new cohort of students entering the program in Fall of 2022.

- We have not made any alterations to program yet based on our assessment, given that we are in the process of revamping the program, adding and removing classes, and discussing potential cooperation between programs.
- We are in the process of changing the certificate program in terms of developing more courses to be added and discuss the potential to cross-list classes

Below is additional information as it relates to the program:

The Cross-Sector Alliance program was created to provide students with the academic training to work in multiple sectors (including the non-profit, business, and public sector). The program relies in partnership with the business school, and thus we met with a faculty affiliated with their program to discuss ways to bring the program to viability. In the past the program has not been viable due to several factors we have discussed. We have agreed to partake in several endeavors to bring the program to viability again, including: 1) Renaming the program 2) Analyzing our course offerings 3) Increasing relationship with the business school and others such as MFA students 4) Expanding and advertising the program for the Master of Public Administration and Nonprofit program 5) Conducting larger advertising of the program among students and discussing how to 6) Expand some of the course availability and offerings. Below are more details along with the justification for each of the aforesaid items:

- 1) We will rename the program to something students and others are more familiar with. Cross-sector alliance may not be the most optimal terminology to call the program. We believe this will improve the image and information pertaining to the program. While cross-sector alliance

deals with the increasing levels of partnerships among various entities and privatization of the public sector, our current name does not capture this to a large enough extent.

- 2) We will revisit the selection of courses and make substitutions as needed. Some of the courses listed were not currently available to students, and we are already in the process of contacting individuals to add to this program and make the needed changes in Courseleaf.
- 3) We are working on developing a closer relationship with the business school to make the program more visible. We met with Molly Jenson who indicated there may be multiple students interested in studying a program such as this so she will work on relaying this information to business students. She also proposed a partnership with the art school, as MFA students may also be interested in pursuing this degree program.
- 4) The MPA program will also begin providing information to their students about this program, many who are interested in nonprofits. We feel that if more students know about it, more students will enroll in the program.
- 5) We also will launch larger advertising among students in general (in emails and fliers) and provide them with information on this program. We discussed how a program such as this is beneficial to a university who has departments and programs that would likely be interested in this program.
- 6) We are in the process of hiring an MPA faculty member who also will teach courses that fall within this degree program. We also will begin offering a course in international philanthropy which will attract students in international programs. Renewed course offerings we feel will attract more students.