Academic Advising & The Student Personnel Point of View

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Agenda for Today

- Why Academic Advising & SPPOV
- Early Examples of Academic Advising Literature
- Academic Advising in the 1937 SPPOV and Subsequent Documents
- Implications of the Historical Roots of Advising

Why Academic Advising & SPPOV?

Professions....like people, should be able to tell a compelling story

Aligning Advising Work and "Traditional"

Student Affairs Work is a boon to both efforts

Early Advising

The College Student and His Problems (1922)
J. H. Canfield

Context for 1937 SPPOV

American in the Midst of Turmoil



Context for the 1937 SPPOV

DC in 1936:



Context for the 1937 SPPOV

- Student Personnel Services really rose to prominence starting in 1925
- Initial survey of similar jobs at similar institutions focused on "...what a number of institutions were then doing to assist the students to develop as individuals."
- Post Civil-War shift from "finishing school" to german style research institutions

Important Quotes from the 1937 SPPOV

"[The Student Personnel] philosophy imposes upon educational institutions the obligation to consider the student as a whole - his intellectual capacity and achievement, his emotional make up, his physical condition, his social relationships, his vocational aptitudes and skills, his moral and religious values, his economic resources, his aesthetic appreciations. It puts emphasis, in brief, upon the development of the student as a person rather than upon his intellectual

Important Quotes from the 1937 SPPOV

"These officers were appointed first to relieve administrators and faculties of problems of discipline; but their responsibilities grew with considerable rapidity to include a large number of other duties: educational counseling, vocational counseling, the administration of loans and scholarship funds, part-time employment, graduate placement, student health, extracurricular activities, social programs, and a number of others."

Important Quotes from the 1937 SPPOV

"4. Providing a diagnostic service to help the student discover his abilities, aptitudes, and objectives."

"5. Assisting the student throughout his college residence to determine upon his courses of instruction in light of his past achievements, vocational and personal interests, and diagnostic findings."

The 1949 SPPOV

Greater emphasis on creating a civically engaged student populace

"The optimum development of the individual necessitates the recognition by teachers and administrators, as well as by professional personnel workers, of individual differences in backgrounds, abilities, interests and goals"

The 1987 SPPOV

Emphasis on the increasing specialization of Higher Education Institutions and the coming financial squeeze

"The work of student affairs should not compete with and cannot substitute for [the] academic experience"

Implications of Historical Legacy

Academic advising has and will remain an integral part of the student support apparatus

Academic advising serves as an important bridge between the faculty and further student affairs work

Academic advising should be included at the "table" with other student affairs departments and offices