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Exploration of Student and Faculty Life Cycles in Higher Education

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ABSTRACT

This systematic literature review examines various models associated with faculty and student life cycles in institutions of higher education (IHE). Findings demonstrate how an understanding of life cycles among key stakeholders in IHEs can help to clarify mission, vision, and values within the organization and more importantly help faculty and students move towards important milestones. In this presentation, prominent approaches to implementing life cycle models across all divisions within higher education are applied to a case study within an urban public university School of Education.

All IHEs exist for two primary reasons: 1) to serve students and 2) develop new knowledge through faculty research and teaching. As such, IHEs share common goals of increasing enrollment, student/alumni engagement, graduation, and understanding and application of student life cycle models can help with retention, improving learning experiences, and increase alumni giving. Similarly, faculty experience can be viewed from a life cycle perspective that includes key considering how they are recruited, oriented, supported, developed, promoted, and ultimately retire. Through a systematic review of the literature on models of student/faculty life cycles, this presentation will highlight effective application of IHE life cycle models to increase student and faculty and success.

Keywords: life cycle, higher education, faculty & students