

### **What is our Why?**

- Give course correction
- Helping students learn to live independently – provide resources and a secure living environment
- Provide facility, fitness, health to promote student development
- Expansion
- Support for future focus, big decision making
- Continuing to identify who they (students) are and what they want to become – identity
- Helping them (students) help themselves
- Develop student leaders
- Transitions, freshmen transfers, orientations, finding their fit on campus
- Support role for HFS – best stewardship for our dollars as a department
- Caring for ourselves as a community
- Because we care
- Because we want to do it

### **What is our purpose?**

- To educate students/people
- Enhance the experience – create a well-rounded experience
- Create a better world
- Help people think differently
- Make leaders
- Develop a vision of who they will be
- Help prepare for life
- Guiding our students – helping them learn to be better adults
- Helping students discover themselves – building foundations
- Helping students understand who they are as part of a community
- We act as one entity to represent one goal
- Work together to enhance student experiences
- “Transformational” – complete the university experience
- Step between home and independence
- Education
- Serving the students and shaping their lives
- Supporting student development and growth
- Student enrichment
- Addressing collective needs (housing, work, personal, intellectual)
- Challenge and support students
- Provide the non-technical skills to students to be successful
- Fostering student leadership – giving students a ‘seat at the table’
- Critical thinkers
- Preparing for new experiences
- Providing opportunity for others to be themselves

### **What are we known for?**

- Caring for students/community
- Free expression
- Creativity
- Ability to experiment – be yourself
- Individual identity
- Enhancing who they (students) are; discovering who we are
- Good at being both reactive and proactive
- An open place to go
- A senses of support or comfort
- A replacement/support role
- Our positivity in regards to what we do resonates with our students – evolving
- Should be in line with our purpose
- Creating ‘fit’ for students
- Caretakers, parents, educators – a support network
- A safe space to learn and grow
- What we are known for may not be fully understood by students
- Large research university – government funded
- Helpful – hard to get in to
- Big, red tape (giant beasts)
- Existing for the sake of existing
- Self-servicing
- Accessibility, affordability, quality
- Welcoming, diversity, pushing boundaries

### **What types of people do we attract?**

- Everybody – faculty/students/community
- People who like our open attitude
- People who regard us (a state university) as their university
- Collectively we are comfortable and relaxed about your extremes/our community/our people
- The beauty of our campus attracts and inspires people
- All types of people – strength!
- Flagship – Washington heavy
- People who enjoy Seattle culture/lifestyle

**What values do we really embody?**

- Creativity with people that aren't satisfied – it can always be better for the students
- Confidence
- Ability to allow change
- Patience
- 24/7 flexibility
- Building character
- Growth and critical thinking to challenge students rather than 'the customer is always right'
- Caring for students (mentorship)
- Teaching responsibility
- Living a fulfilling life – building connections

**Why do our positions/offices/departments exist?**

- TO SERVE
- Based on the 'why' and what works
- Support students throughout their educational experience
- To coach parents on how to coach their student(s)
- To inspire students to advocate for themselves but also being there when they are unable to advocate for themselves (at the end of the day, students must care for themselves)
- Helping students see the connection between what they do at the UW and the larger world

**Why does this university exist?**

- Premiere/elite university
- Challenge everyone to go above and beyond
- Support the state
- Pushing limits (what's over the next horizon?)
- Support the region – most educated region/city
- \*Mission = discovery
- Large employer
- Community
- Research
- Depends on who you ask

**Why do student services/higher education staff positions exist?**

- Traditionally faculty couldn't handle – particular type of person that can help develop students
- You need both faculty and higher education staff to compliment the whole academic experience
- Creating connects for student success
- Stress relief

### **Why do you do what you do?**

- It's entertaining
- It's never dull
- Feels like we are making a difference
- Rewarding
- Success in the community
- Stoked off student excitement
- Energy
- Watching students grow
- All the little things make a difference
- We make it okay
- We do it for the students!
- Makes us happy
- To help shape lives
- To help resolve issues
- To empower and develop students
- Goes both ways – students make us grow too
- Make connections
- Provide resources
- Our purpose drives why we do this
- Mentoring
- Connections with students
- To help students succeed
- Education is important – you can never take that away
- We believe in what we do
- Feels good – good work is getting done
- Opportunities available for all
- Providing those opportunities for others
- Learning, strengths, education matters
- Transforming lives – moral and social
- Had personal transformations in higher education
- Social change
- Self-serving – pride driving our work