Mission:
By supporting scholarly and academic programs, the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies attempts to bring together the university students, staff, and faculty, with Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino/a communities and the New Orleans community at large. We use a multifaceted effort to increase interdisciplinary educational experiences and promote the active engagement of the university with the world around it and to build from and promote the spread of Jesuit values through the global community.

Vision:
The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies supports Loyola’s role as a leading comprehensive university in the southern tier of the country and is a symbol of Loyola’s continued efforts to strengthen its ties to the city, surrounding region, and hemisphere.

Values:
1) Dignity, value, and development of the whole person, as stated in Loyola’s Jesuit Vision of Education.
2) Excellent teaching on Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino/a societies, cultures, scientific thought, languages, history, and economic and business issues.
3) Outstanding faculty and student research about Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latino/a communities in the U.S.
4) Appreciation for human diversity and respect for all cultures.
5) Institutional reputation

Strategic Issues:
I. Academics
   a. Major/Minor
      i. Reorganize minor and major requirements to create a more cohesive instructional program
      ii. Increase the number and type of courses with Latin American Studies content
      iii. Promote cultural awareness and critical thought by students on Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino/a issues
      iv. Develop a consistent policy for the capstone experience for both majors and minors.
   b. Master’s degree
      i. Develop a master’s degree in Latino Studies
      ii. Develop a joint master’s degree in Latin American Studies
   c. Student recruitment and retention
      i. Increase the number of students enrolled and graduating with Latin American Studies majors and minors
ii. Note the number of non major or minor students enrolled in Latin American Studies classes each semester – including higher level language courses.

iii. Improve language competencies by students in Latin American Studies programs

iv. Integrate study abroad, internships, research, etc. into Latin American Studies courses

v. Promote study abroad

d. Faculty
   i. Active faculty

II. Community
   a. Events
      i. Cosponsoring
   b. Continue linking program to the community and region
   c. Increase opportunities for student internship, service learning, study abroad, and community projects
      i. Better integrate community projects into LAS courses
      ii. Service learning
      iii. Work with international business association effort to get internships
      iv. Increase collaboration with community partners
      v. Establish a formal partnership with local agencies working with Latinos
      vi. Number and type of outreach programs conducted (including participants)
   d. Create community oriented programs such as translation and interpretation and oral history
   e. Institutional reputation
      i. General and specific agreements signed (purpose, expected outcomes)
   f. Enhance connections with Latin American Jesuit Universities
      i. Create a consortium of Jesuit LAS Centers and Programs in the USA
      ii. Consolidate and expand partnerships with Jesuit Latin American universities

III. Programs
   a. International programs
      i. Promote study abroad
         - Expand student participation in study abroad and international internships in Latin America
         - Number and type of study abroad programs
      ii. Strengthen exchange and collaboration programs with Latin American Jesuit University
   b. Translation and Interpretation Certificate Program
   c. Interdisciplinary
      i. Support existing and new interdisciplinary initiatives
         1. Collaborate with departments, colleges, centers and institutes, and other interdisciplinary programs
2. Support discussions on creating a Global Studies and/or Latin American studies master’s program

ii. Grow major and minor through collaboration with other departments and colleges
   1. Expand number of faculty on advisory committee
   2. Invite existing faculty to staff Latin American Studies courses and committees and propose new courses
   3. Collaborate and consult with other departments about prospective and joint hires in Latin American Studies

IV. Research
   a. Oral History
   b. Faculty
      i. Active faculty (courses taught; study abroad; teaching/research interests; recent publications; grants/honors)
      ii. Facilitate interdisciplinary research
      iii. Promote joint student/faculty research on Latin American, Caribbean and Latino/a issues
      iv. Faculty research facilitated or funded (capacity and dollar value)
      v. Promote faculty development
         a. expand faculty collaborations with peers in other U.S. and Latin American universities
         b. increase number of faculty participating in Latin American Studies Association and other specialty conferences focus on Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino issues
         c. Increase faculty participation in research and conferences in Latin America
         d. Improve faculty expertise by region, discipline, and domestic/international focus
   c. Student
      i. Number of honor’s theses and special projects among students and which faculty are involved in these
      ii. Promote community based research and service learning
      iii. promote student participation in student academic conferences
      iv. develop opportunities for student independent research with community partner institutions
      v. develop opportunities for student research in Latin America
      vi. work along the office of service learning and study abroad to create opportunities for students
      vii. Number of students in Latin American studies minor or major that participate in experiential learning (internships, service learning, study abroad, field research)

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