

Hampden-Sydney College

C-Day Results September 4, 2012

Presented to
Board of Trustees
Strategic Planning Committee
Fall Board Meeting—October 26, 2012
by Dr. Dale Jones



Overview

- Antecedent actions
- Good Men Plan @ H-SC and C-Day review
- C-Day schedule
- Attendance estimates and initial assessment
- Perspectives
- Major findings
- Recommended actions



Antecedent Actions

- Good Men Plan @ H-SC Working Group made recommendations on how best to “beta test” Good Men Plan and C-Days (*Dec 2011-Apr 2012*)
- Produced white paper to support faculty approval of C-Day (*Apr 21, 2012*)
- Faculty approved academic calendar change for C-Day on Sep 4 (*Apr 30, 2012*)
- Good Men Plan Committee established to plan, conduct, and assess C-Day (*May 1, 2012*)



Strategic Plan Targeted Areas

- Promotion of student engagement
- Enhancement of co-curricular activities for students
- Programs for student career and professional development
- Sense of community for students, faculty, and staff
- Retention of students



Good Men Plan @ H-SC

- Operates as H-SC's model of a high quality liberal arts curriculum complemented by co-curricular programs, events, and experiences
- Strengthens areas in need of improvement
- Starts strategic plan implementation process
- Accomplishes multiple goal action items simultaneously
- Costs very little



C-Day Concept

- Foundation themes—Convocation, Calling, Career, Community, Ceremony, Celebration
- Dedicated day for series of events—no classes, athletic practices, or other events
- One day per year or per semester
- Intellectual enrichment for students
- Co-curricular engagement for students



Alignment

- Good Men Plan and C-Days
 - Derive from strategic plan (*Nov 5, 2011*)
 - Complementary with and supportive of academic program and its education goals
- Alignment exists among College mission, education goals, strategic plan, Good Men Plan, and C-Days



Goals of C-Day

- Promote and enhance student engagement
- Provide purposeful educational activities
- Foster cohesion and build community
- Achieve acculturation of community values
- Advance seven core themes of “Hampden-Sydney Man”



Core Themes of H-S Man

1. Citizenship, Service, and Leadership
2. Understanding Manhood and Masculinities
3. Self-Awareness, Vocational Reflection, and Professional Development
4. Environmental Stewardship and Outdoor Experience
5. Arts, Creativity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship
6. Global Engagement and Intercultural Communication
7. Intellectual Enrichment



C-Day Morning Schedule

- Opening convocation
- Class speakers
 - Seniors—Thad Shelly '75
 - Juniors—Joe Ehrmann
 - Sophomores—Hiter Harris '83
 - Freshmen—Tulane Patterson '78
- Sophomore pinning ceremony with alumni



C-Day Afternoon Schedule

- Senior Quest—Tiger Track career sessions and Quest stations
- Junior Quest—Tiger Track career sessions and Quest stations
- Sophomore Quest—Majors Fair, Tiger Track career sessions and Quest stations
- Freshman service projects
- Community Pig-on-the-Point Dinner, Student Club and Fraternity Fair, and band



Attendance Estimates

Class	Students per Class	Maximum Participation at any Single C-Day Event	Average Attendance at Selected C-Day Events (% of Class)
Seniors	211	96	39.3
Juniors	230	50	18.5
Sophomores	279	67	21.6
Freshmen	344	335	96.9
<i>Totals</i>	1,064	548	



Initial Assessment

Of the students that answered the survey (417)
and indicated they attended events (376)...

They gave the highest favorable responses to:

Opening Convocation

Class speakers

Pig-on-the-Point dinner



Major Findings

- Significant staff and faculty preparation
- Quality programs and events
- High level of freshmen engagement
- Insufficient student participation in upper three classes
- Some events were “home runs” (Opening Convocation, Club and Fraternity Fair)
- Exceptional class speakers



Perspectives

- C-Day development is a process to determine the right combination of activities
- There are many possible quality events for C-Day
- We should be self-critical but realistic in judging our successes and failures
- We are off to a good start, but we can do much better



Recommended Actions

- Condense C-Day activities
- Refine current events and create new events
- Design events to achieve critical densities of students
- Generate higher student engagement
- Make participation mandatory
- Determine consequences for non-participation



Recommended Actions

- Keep and improve sophomore pinning ceremony
- Add junior ring and coin ceremony
- Use technology tools to assist in tracking attendance and obtaining post-event feedback
- Improve promotion and communication approach



Closing

- Discussion
- Questions
- *Thank you!*



GMP in the Strategic Plan

Goal #1—To graduate capable, confident men who are committed to serving with honor and character – Good Men, Good Citizens

1. Develop Hampden-Sydney College into a place recognized for its expertise in strengthening and educating men.
 2. Broaden the definition of the Hampden-Sydney tradition of honor to include personal conduct, character, ethics, and integrity throughout life.
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GMP in the Strategic Plan

5. Add and strengthen programs that will enable H-SC graduates to be competitive in the job market and provide them with skills to enter the workforce or to pursue advanced studies.

6. Sponsor events and programs about career and professional development, including discussions on calling, vocational options, and community service, as well as other programs that may fall outside the typical academic calendar.



GMP in the Strategic Plan

Goal #2—To achieve an environment for the education of men that is recognized for excellence in learning, teaching, living, and working.

B. Implement our vision of a liberal arts education for men.

3. Give more attention to the total experience of students' freshman and sophomore years, including programs of orientation, advising, student life, and academic support.



GMP in the Strategic Plan

C. Significantly enhance co-curricular opportunities as an essential component of the total educational experience.

1. Provide enhanced programs in service learning, internships, mentoring, leadership, and collaborative institutional partnerships.

