Issues in Teaching and Advising: Experiencing the Millennial Generation

Overview

• What we see…
• Plan for the Day
• Take Home Message(s)
  – This is Just the Beginning…
  – We are all part of a "blended family"

The Generational Mix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Generation</th>
<th>Year Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Millennials</td>
<td>1982 – 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen X</td>
<td>1961 – 1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boomers</td>
<td>1943 – 1960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditionalists</td>
<td>1925 – 1942</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Working with the Generational Mix

- Authority
- Work Ethic
- Management Expectations
- Patience
- Behavior / Dress

Millennials Coming to College

“A New Breed of Students on Campus”
Special
Sheltered
Confident
Team-Oriented
Conventional
Pressured
Achieving

What does this mean?

- Talented in technology
- Eager for community activities
- Busy in extracurricular activities
- Respectful of norms and institutions
Expectations & Motivations

- Close with parents
- Very focused on grades & performance
- Demanding of a secure, regulated environment

And......

Veruca Salt Complex

I want the world. I want the whole world.
I want to lock it all up in my pocket.
It's my bar of chocolate. Give it to me now.

-"I Want It Now," Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory

An Example...

“...I recently asked for tutoring for Biology, and they told me that they were all booked until December, and I really need this tutoring, and so, there needs to be something...I don’t know what else...they always said peer tutoring was guaranteed, so I don’t really understand...I wrote an email, but no one got back to me..."
I want it now!

- Instant gratification and feedback
- Internet — email, instant messages, digital calls, shopping for anything
- Cell phones — no need for landlines
- More money than parents had at same age
- Digital grade access and registration

Challenges to Teaching, Learning & Millennial Students

- High aspirations & Low expectations
- Practice of Work vs. View of Work
- Unrealistic Expectations of Academic Success
- Academic Honesty

Principles for Enhancing Teaching Effectiveness with Millennial Students

- Encourage contact b/w students & faculty
- Develop reciprocity and cooperation among students
- Encourage active learning
- Give prompt feedback
- Emphasize time on task
- Communicate high expectations
- Respect diverse talents and ways of knowing
Reflection

“Each generation has its own biography, a biography that tells the story of how the personality of the generation is shaped and how the personality subsequently shapes other generations.”

Cosmes & DuBard, 2004

Thank You!!!

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