## **COLLEGES OF THE FENWAY**

Over 20 years ago *the Principles of Collaboration* marked the creation of Colleges of the Fenway; committing our institutions to working together to enhance our academic and social environments and to holding down the escalating costs of higher education. Our six institutions have done much to realize this vision.

## **Looking to the Future**

By working together we have created a solid foundation of collaborative programs and services; expanding curricular opportunities for students through cross-registration, the GEO Center, joint minors in Performing Arts and Sustainability, the Center for Sustainability and the Environment and annual Block Parties to name a few. Thousands of our students come together every year through the Performing Arts, Intramurals programs and shared social activities.

We have strengthened staff and faculty development with Leadership Management training, Teaching and Learning Conferences, Department Chair training, monthly professional development workshops and MLK Breakfasts. We save on average \$2million per year through joint purchasing in several areas, and we are physically linked below ground through our fiber optic network.

The question before us now is how can the colleges go even further in enhancing our student, staff, and faculty environments while expanding the economic benefits of collaboration?

With the leadership from the Coordinating Council and COF staff, we have worked with representatives across the colleges to identify Strategic Focus Areas that will shape our work for the next five years.

- Define and Communicate Our Identity
- Design and Implement Innovative,
  Shared Academic Programming

- Enhance Our Shared Student Experience
- Increase Resource Efficiencies
- Review Our Governance Model

To kick off this work, we as the Board have agreed on two primary goals: **Improve Cross-Registration** and **Increase Cost-Savings.** 

We have the opportunity to take full advantage of our experience and proximity, modeling strategic collaboration with the goal of ensuring a strong future for each of our institutions. In coming months we will be relying on you, whether you are engaged in an active COF Committee, working with new special task force, or contacted for your expertise, to bring your full attention to the work of collaborating; sharing in both the investment and the outcome.

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