M.A. Degree /Student Personnel in Higher Education

Example of Educational Leadership

Part I  Mandatory Questions

Answer questions 1 and 2 and support your response by citing recent research, literature, and effective practices:

1. Design the ideal Division of Student Affairs for a public university of 15,000 students by doing the following:

   Present the philosophy for the Division in one or more paragraphs. Show the organizational chart. Defend why this design is the best approach to Student Personnel.

2. Student Activities Director Safeplay, for the past 4 years, as part of his duties, has advised the governance of the campus student body including the officers and the faculty senate. He prides himself on the fact that student government is truly self-government. He restricts his activities to advising and does not attempt to influence decisions of the officers. In fact, he is so careful to present the logic of alternative perspectives that, on most issues, students do not know what his personal feelings are. Every year the student senate is faced with the task of allocating funds to various campus interest groups. Officers from these groups must make presentations of their proposed budgets to the senate. After questioning the officers on their plans for spending, the senate votes on how much money to allocate. For the past two (2) years a campus Gay and Lesbian Alliance organization has made a request for funding for both social and educational activities. Both years, after much heated discussion, the request has been rejected based on several arguments: 1) that the organization espouses immoral activities, 2) that the organization seeks to influence "innocent" others and 3) that the organization is for a specialized group of people and does not meet the needs of the general campus population. The alliance argues that they are primarily an educational as well as a social group and do nothing to advocate specific sexual activities. What does Safeplay do? Based on what ethical principles?

Part II  Student Development

Answer one of the following questions.

1. One of the most widely cited student development theorists is Arthur Chickering. Chickering describes seven vectors of development. List and explain each.
3. Kurt Lewin developed a formula by which the understanding of student development is based. Explain the formula and its impact on the development of student development theories.
Part III  Finance

Answer one of the following questions.

1. Explain auxiliary operations in higher education. How do they differ in public versus private colleges and universities?
2. List the sources and various types of revenue available to support the budgeting process in both public and private colleges and universities.
3. List, explain, and give examples of three broad sources of financial support for students enrolled in higher education institutions in America.

Part IV General

Answer four of the following questions.

1. What values, attitudes, characteristics and beliefs do you observe in the younger generation of college students on your campus?
2. Relate the function of discipline in a university environment to the mission of higher education as it evolved over the past one hundred years.
3. Richard and Hollany list six factors as to why students select a particular college or university. Identify and discuss these factors.
4. Pick one of the functions of student personnel and discuss how it has developed over time, how it serves students and why it is important to a program of student services.
5. New theories of career development are evolving on the basis of criticisms of earlier theories. Discuss the nature of the criticisms and how they are being addressed in newer theories.
6. Identify common elements of ethical principles and standards of the American College Personnel Association (ACPA), the National Association of Student Personnel (NASPA), and the American Association for Counseling and Development (AACD).
7. The AAUP statement on Governance of Colleges and Universities has served as a guideline for development of numerous college and university governance codes. Identify and briefly discuss the major guidelines related to the role(s) of governing boards, presidents and faculty in the management of an institution of higher education.
8. Access to higher education is a cornerstone of the American system of higher education. Discuss the historical development of "access" measures from colonial times to the present. Is access to higher education a problem in today's society? Although students' concerns have varied throughout the history of higher education, the student culture has changed little. Discuss the historical development of the student culture and the issues faced by students in higher education.
9. Compare and contrast the organization and administration of public institutions in higher education in 1939 with that of 2005. What changes in higher education and our country best explain these similarities and/or differences?