

## ***Topic:*** Developing “My College Plan” 10/2/2012

The idea of using My College Plan began with the Academic Advising Committee deciding to implement an idea gained from Duke who uses this strategy with their first-year students. The plan is an opportunity for students to reflect on their goals and expectations in regard to their post-secondary educational experience. This is a document in transition as it is currently being edited to suit the needs of the Le Moyne students. A current copy can be found (<http://lemoyne.edu/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=S8RQCBKD1wg%3d&tabid=3089>).

Many first year advisors are currently using the document to launch conversations with their students. Kara Keys of the nursing department shared that nursing modified the document a bit to suit their specific major and where they want the students to focus their reflections. They introduced the plan at a learning community event which was attended by the majority of the first year nursing students. The students were required to complete the plan prior to their individual midterm meeting with their advisor. The hope was that by completing the plan the student would give serious thought to why they were in the nursing program and how completing this course of study would meet their goals.

The discussion then turned to a conversation on ways to better implement this at Le Moyne. The following are a list of discussion topics that spurred from the conversation:

- Is there a way to connect completing this plan to the Common Reading? For example, how are your personal experiences like those of a character in the reading?
- Can we relate this to the Le Moyne College mission, specifically to critical thinking and academic excellence?
- Can we relate or connect this to C2C?
- What can we do to institutionalize completing this plan? How do we get it into the classes?
- Would including the phrase, I envision my life at Le Moyne College... be a profound experience in reflection?
- Would the addition of upper division students to the first-year student's experience in connection with completing the plan be beneficial?