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Creating Future Opportunities Through the Alignment, Administration, and Assessment of a University Graduate Program

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Many of the complex issues that face today's college students are associated with their accumulating not only a knowledge base, but with their developing intellectually, socially, and emotionally. A growing body of research indicates that much of this development occurs outside of the classroom and in conjunction with the numerous program offerings of student affairs. . Recently released competencies for the student affairs profession recommend a broad array of competency areas. This broad list suggests a professional knowledge and skill set for one who can assume a variety of roles in the student affairs profession, and of roles that may be changing due to changing demographics and needs of college students. These influencers are important considerations in effectively developing and administering graduate programs in this field of study. This paper highlights the primary administrative issues involved with program alignment, program administration, and program assessment of a newly formed graduate program in student affairs.