Finding Your Starting Point

What is Your Why?

What is the reason behind your interest and desire to implement a curriculum on your campus?

Remember the underlying "whys" of the curricular approach: learning-centered practice, research-based practice, collaboration, assessment and inquiry, continuous change…

Start Researching

How will you develop knowledge and capacity related to the curricular approach? What is a book or article that you can commit to reading, perhaps with colleagues?

Evaluate Your Organization

- How aligned are different parts of your organization and key players with the important "whys" of the curricular approach?
- How open are different parts of your organization and key players to change?
- How oriented toward student learning-centered practice is your organization?
- Do you have existing structures and systems that will support movement to a curricular approach?
- Do you have existing structures and systems that will be barriers to a curricular approach?
- How might job responsibilities and descriptions need to change?

Build a Team

Though you want to keep this group relatively small, you should ensure that a variety of different viewpoints and experiences are represented. This should be a balanced group that reflects the multiple layers of your organization.

- Who has knowledge or skill power?
- Who has openness to change and learning?
- Who has relationship power?
- Who has decision-making power?

Determine Your Stakeholders

- Who gives permission, makes decisions, and allocates resources?
- Who are potential collaborators in the educational process?
- Who are potential advocates and champions?
- Who will be affected by this change?
- What is the best role for each of these groups? How will you build buy in and gather input?

Make the Time & Space

- How can you make time and space to develop your curriculum?
- How can you create time and space for your whole organization to be involved? Staff retreats, change to meeting schedules, etc.