

VERIFICATION IMPROVEMENT

Gina Spence Program Advisor & Data Coordinator CIEL Tuesday, March 25, 2025



PURPOSE: BACKGROUND

What is Graduation with Leadership Distinction (GLD)?

GLD is a formal academic distinction recognizing students (associate's, bachelor's, and PharmD) for their **extensive involvement and reflection on beyond the classroom experiences**, including:

- Community service
- Advocacy and community service
- Internships, work, practicum
- Study abroad
- Research

Bachelor's-level GLD Requirements include:

- 300 hours of beyond-the-classroom experience
- 3 enhancement experiences;
- 6 credit-hours of relevant coursework;
- 1 presentation; and
- 1 ePortfolio.

GLD is awarded on a student's **diploma and transcript**, and **cords** are awarded to recognize students at commencement.











PURPOSE: WHAT IS GLD VERIFICATION?



Verification process

- To ensure the integrity of GLD, each experience listed in a GLD student's application must be **individually and independently verified**.
- + 3,800 experiences will be verified for the 24-25 academic year.

Verification Timeline

- GLD Verification takes approximately **14 weeks** to complete.
 - The GLD verification team includes only four members.
- Verification requires **countless hours and communications** with many stakeholders.
- Verification involves:
 - Organizing data, coordinating information from multiple (often disjointed) sources, and lots of manual data tracking.





Verification Progress

PROJECT PATH

- Narrowing down the focus
 - Thank you to Maegan for your guidance!
- Discovery:
 - Data analysis Determining perceived vs. actual issues
 - Formal and informal conversations with CIEL staff
 - Feedback session with CIEL's Student Advisory Council
- Possibility:
 - Brainstorming session with staff
- Action Planning:
 - Next steps!

2023-2024 YEARLY TOTALS				
Sheet	Total Experience	Experiences requriring follow-up	Percentage needing follow-up	
Community Service	102	73	72%	
Coursework	220	25	11%	
DSA Part A	8	7	88%	
DSA Part B	5	5	100%	
Enhancement Activities	855	27	3%	
Global Learning	66	0	0%	
PCE Part A	194	106	55%	
PCE Part B	208	102	49%	
Presentations	376	20	5%	
Research	72	39	54%	
2023-2024 YEARLY TOTAL	2106	404	19%	



PROJECT PATH: STUDENT FEEDBACK

Students want...

- 1
 - More detailed instructions and found the verification process to be unclear (CIEL's website and GLD application).
 - An FAQ about verification and submitting a GLD application.



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- Clearer examples and reassurance.
- 4
- To know what needs to be completed **before** submitting vs. what can be planned for **later**.

Feedback was provided through CIEL's **Student Advisory Council** meeting.



IT'S BEEN A RECORD SEMESTER FOR GLD!

Which means verification improvements will be made in Summer 2025



KEY IMPROVEMENTS

CIEL's website

- Resources, forms, and guides
- Video resources

GLD Application system

- Links directly to resources
- Improved communications

GLD Application workshops

- Timely
 information
- Shared resources



NEXT STEPS: PROJECTED BENEFITS

How will these improvements make a difference?

Let's revisit this chart

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REFLECTION: PROGRAM IMPACT



Small changes can:

- Make big impacts
- Provide motivation for progress
- Create sustainable change over time



THANK YOU! Any questions?

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