The Bonner Program:
Campus-Wide Infrastructure

'Access to Education, Opportunity to Serve"

A program of:
The Corella & Bertram Bonner Foundation
10 Mercer Street, Princeton, NJ 08540
(609) 924-6663 • (609) 683-4626 fax

For more information, please visit our website at www.bonner.org

Campus-Wide Infrastructure:
Overview

- Staffing
- Governance
- Collaboration
- Working Session

Staffing

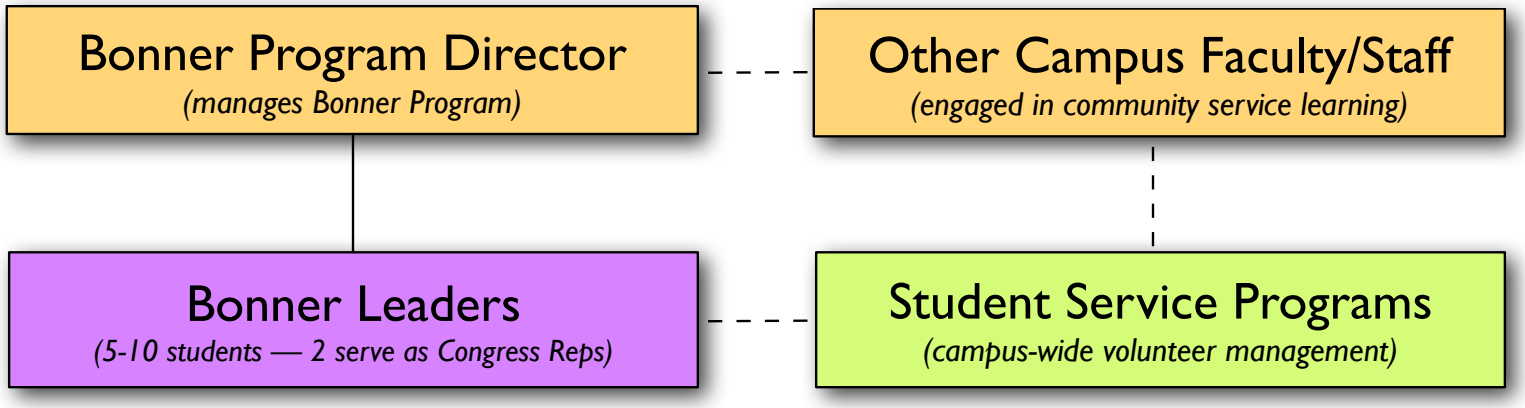
Campus-Wide Infrastructure:
Bonner Program — *Staffing & Student Roles*

- **Staffing Expectations**
  - Bonner Scholar Program: 40:1 FTE
  - Bonner Leader Program: lead staff assigned to direct
  - Bonner Director reports to Senior Administrator
- **Leverage available positions** (e.g., VISTAs)
- **Student Roles:**
  - Senior Intern(s)—training, site liaison, administration
  - Two Congress Representatives—student voice & leadership
  - Student Leadership Team & committee structure—class meetings, projects, community fund
  - Bonner student liaison with campus-wide student leadership structure

Campus-Wide Infrastructure:
Start-Up Model

Start Up Model — Limited Staff

- Bonner Program Director may wear multiple hats
- Begin with 5-10 students
- Progressively add more student each year (by class)
- Link to campus-wide service programs from outset



Campus-Wide Infrastructure:
Bonner Program — *Staffing & Student Roles*

Center Director
(manages Center & oversees Bonner Program)

Bonner Coordinator
(manages Bonner Program)

Other Center Staff
(manage other programs)

VISTAs
(training, enrichment, community partnerships)

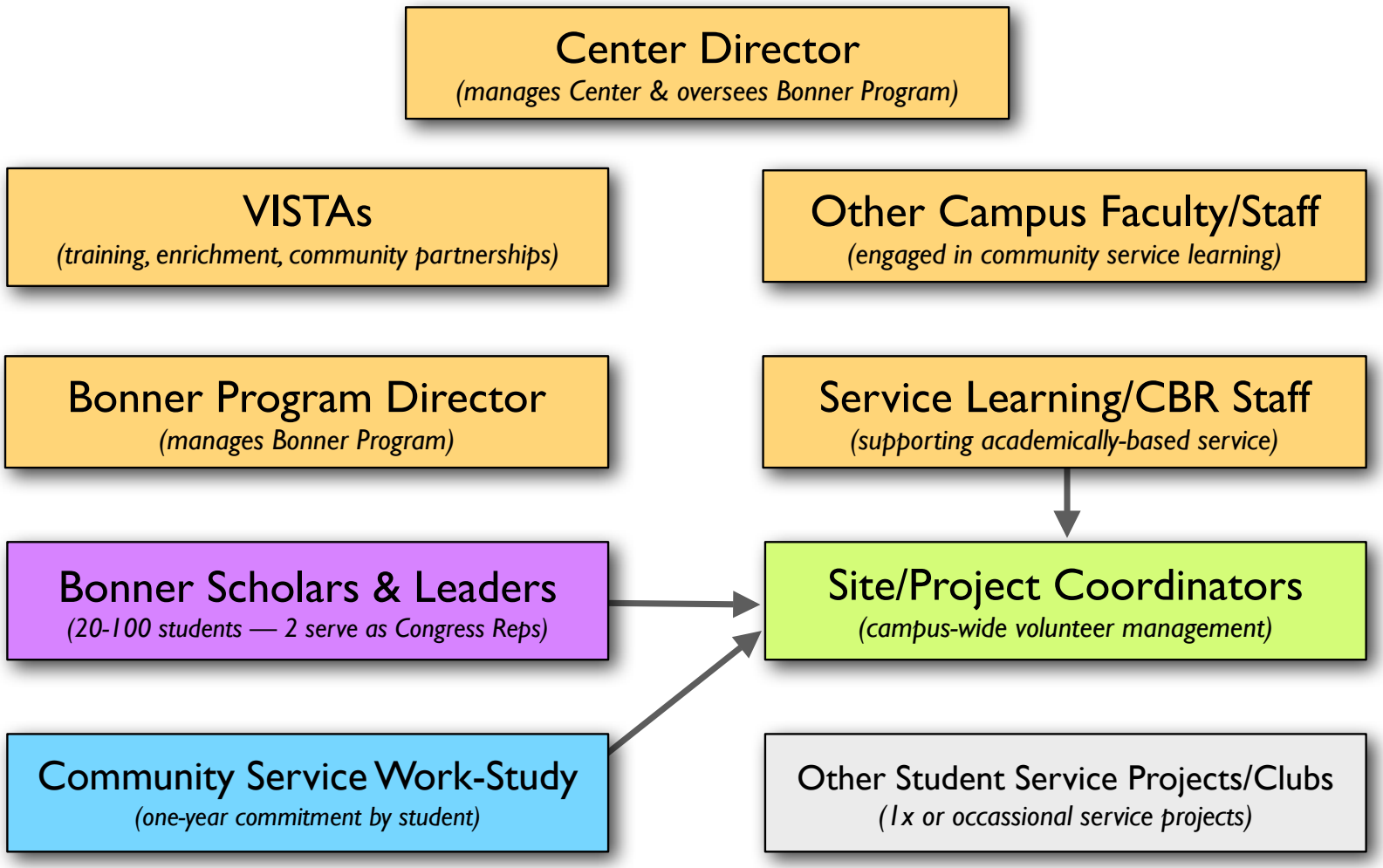
Senior Intern(s)
(training, enrichment, community partnerships)

Site/Project Coordinators
(campus-wide volunteer management)

Bonner Student Leadership Team
(class reps, committees, community fund)

Bonner Congress Reps
(Foundation link, student voice, special projects)

Campus-Wide Infrastructure:
Established Model



Governance

Campus-Wide Infrastructure:
Considerations for Where to House Bonner

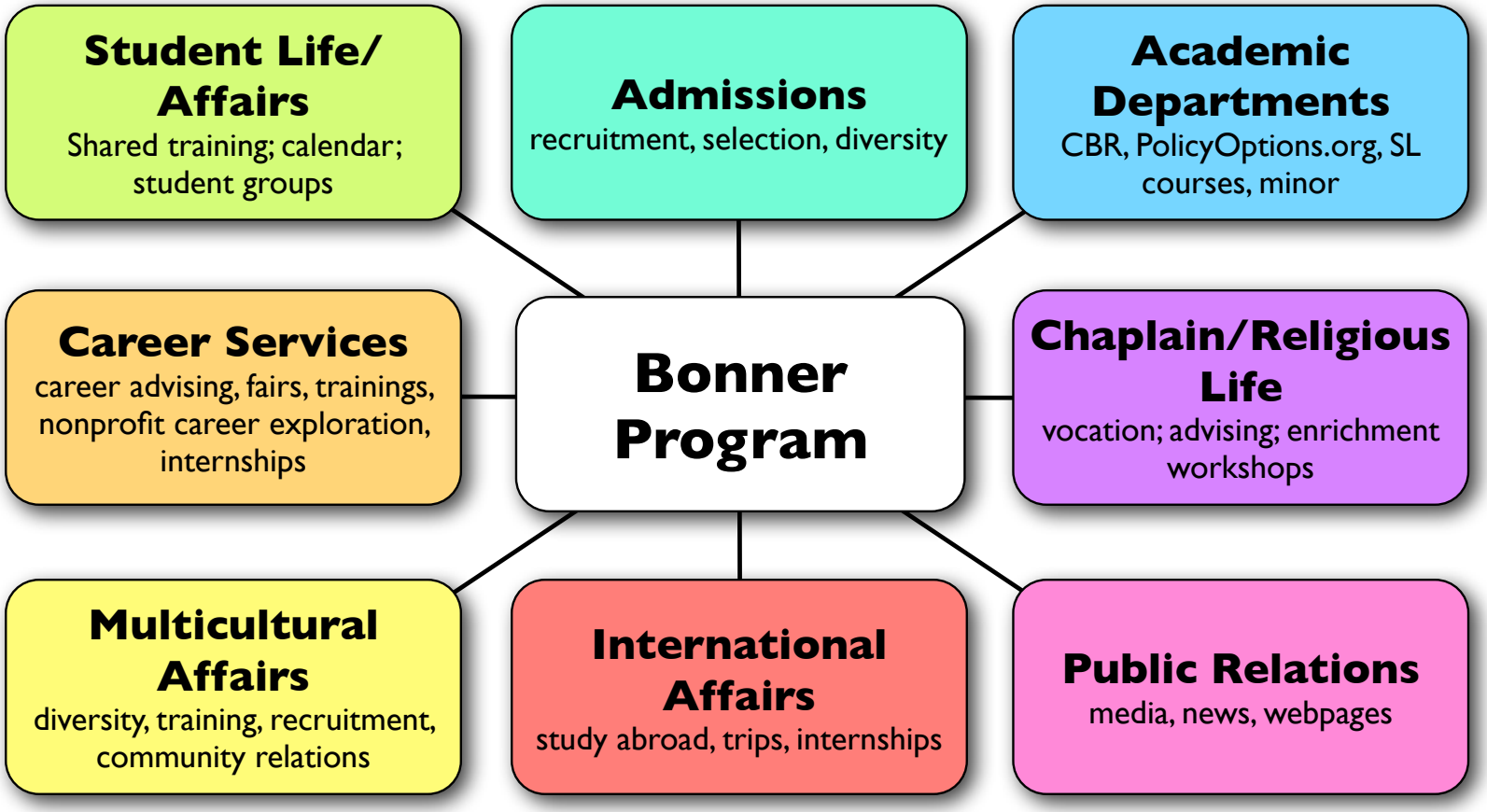
- **Governance** *(best department or division)*
  - Student affairs vs. academic affairs
  - Other innovative options
- **Access to resources**
- **Visibility and location**
  - Access to students
  - Access to faculty
  - Culture of service
- **Institutional respect and future promise**

Campus-Wide Infrastructure:
Considerations for Where to House Bonner

Type	Strengths	Concerns	Other
Student Affairs	Fit with broader departmental mission; student-led programs; can reach larger scale	Fails to become integrated at the institution's core; lack of curricular change; co-curricular devaluation	Many campuses have started from this vantage point
Academic Affairs	May build around the capacities of faculty & students and, with care, meet more complex community desires	Service can be episodic if only tied to courses; lack of student voice and leadership; staff driven	Having program under Academic Affairs does not guarantee curricular change
Student & Academic Affairs *(separate but coordinated)*	Campus can provide a broader range of student & faculty involvement and types of civic engagement	Lack of coordination can lead to frustration; students often left to navigate options on their own	This strategy may be equally effective; it largely depends on the leadership & resources
Integrated Center *('hub' where curricular & co-curricular are combined)*	Leverages resources from & change within curricular and co-curricular; high potential for campus-wide institutionalization	Coordination and decision-making may involve more time & people	

Collaboration

Campus-Wide Infrastructure:
Collaborating Across Campus



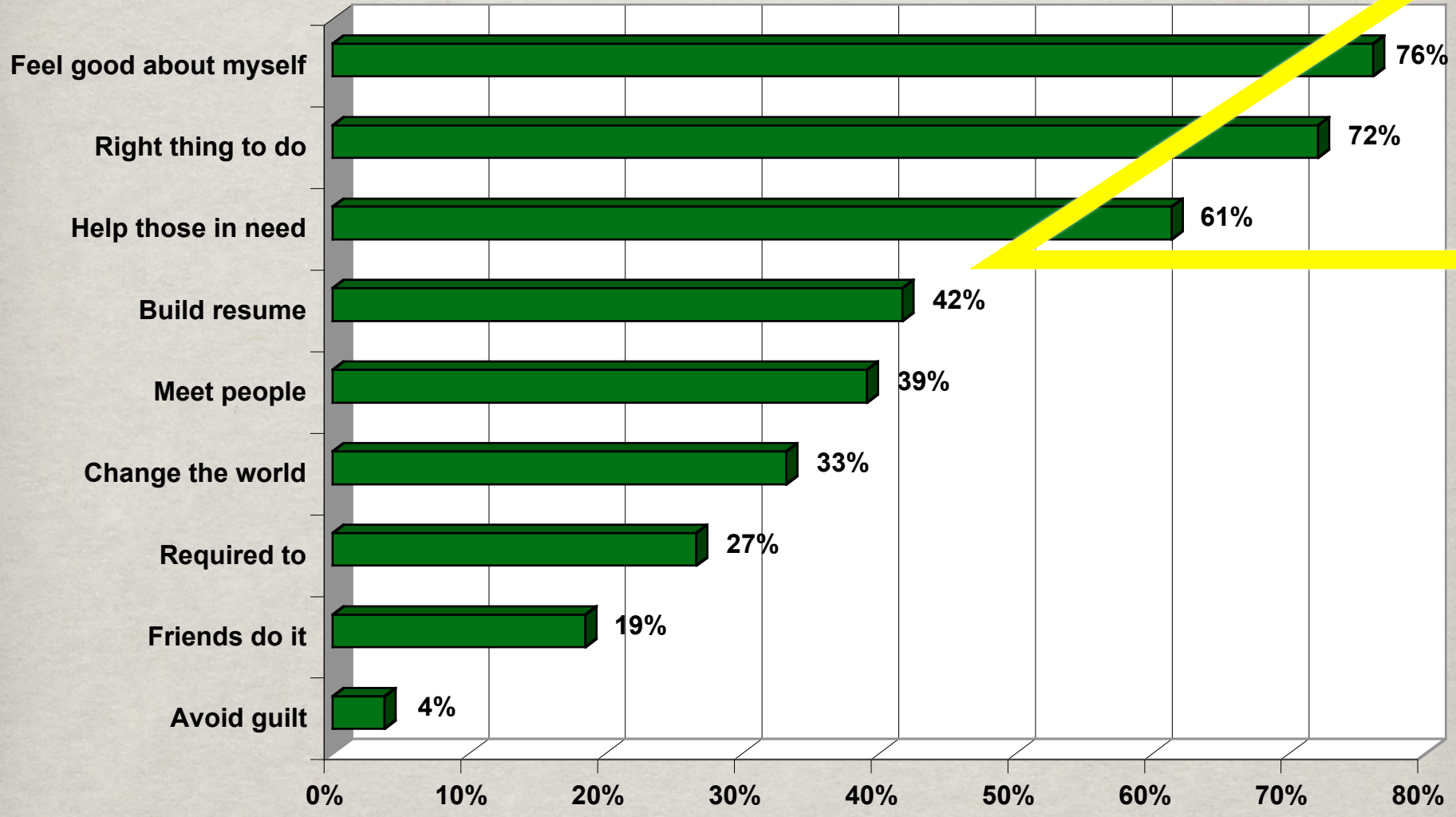
Campus-Wide Infrastructure:
Institutional Support—Some Key Levers

- Bonner Director/Program access to **senior leadership**
- **Financial support for students** to engage in service
- **Visibility** in online and written communications (from recruiting to alumni news)
- **Faculty involvement** and curriculum reform
- **Central place** for service & civic engagement in defining mission, strategic plans, and budget priorities

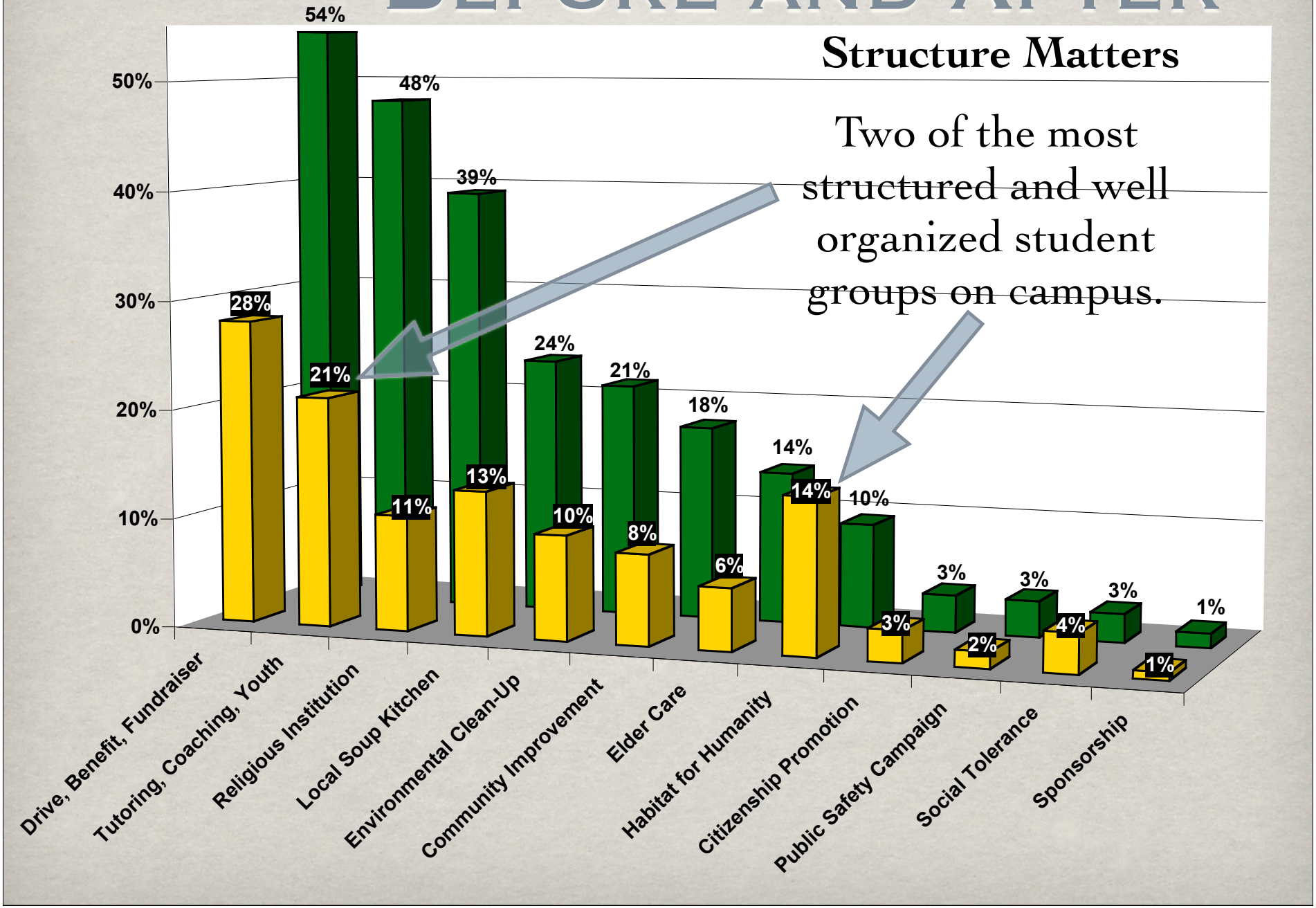
Campus-Wide Infrastructure:
What You Can Do

- Strategically **build your staff**—starting with students
- Creatively consider **new programs**—from more Federal Work Study placements to partnering with national organizations
- **Integrate, integrate, integrate**
- **Communicate** frequently, positively, and strategically with those above you—manage up
- Build a **core constituency** or a working committee of key stakeholders to plan next stages

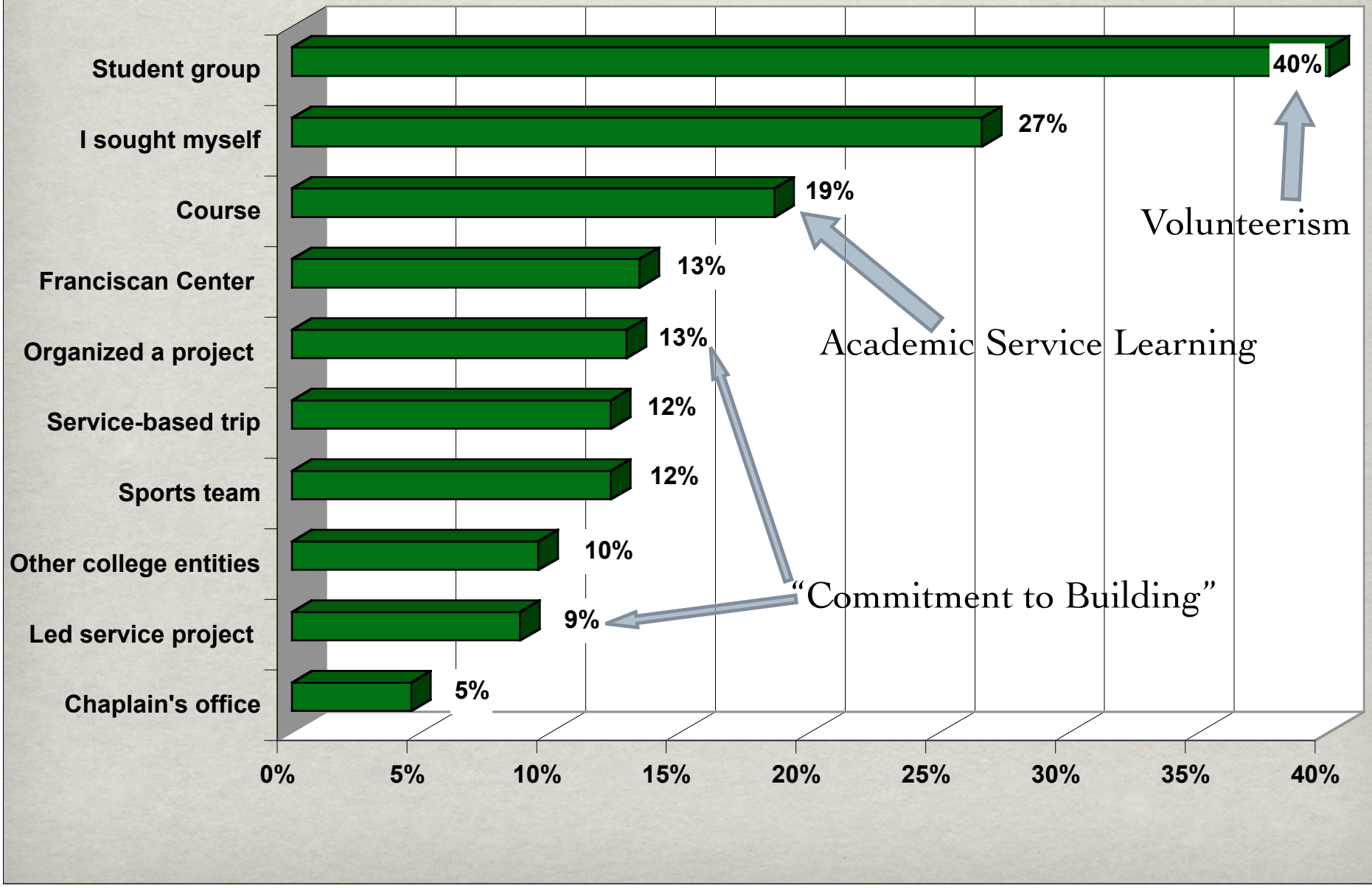
Why I serve?


Feel good about myself
76%
Right thing to do
72%
Help those in need
61%
Build resume
42%
Meet people
39%
Change the world
33%
Required to
27%
Friends do it
19%
Avoid guilt
4%
0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%

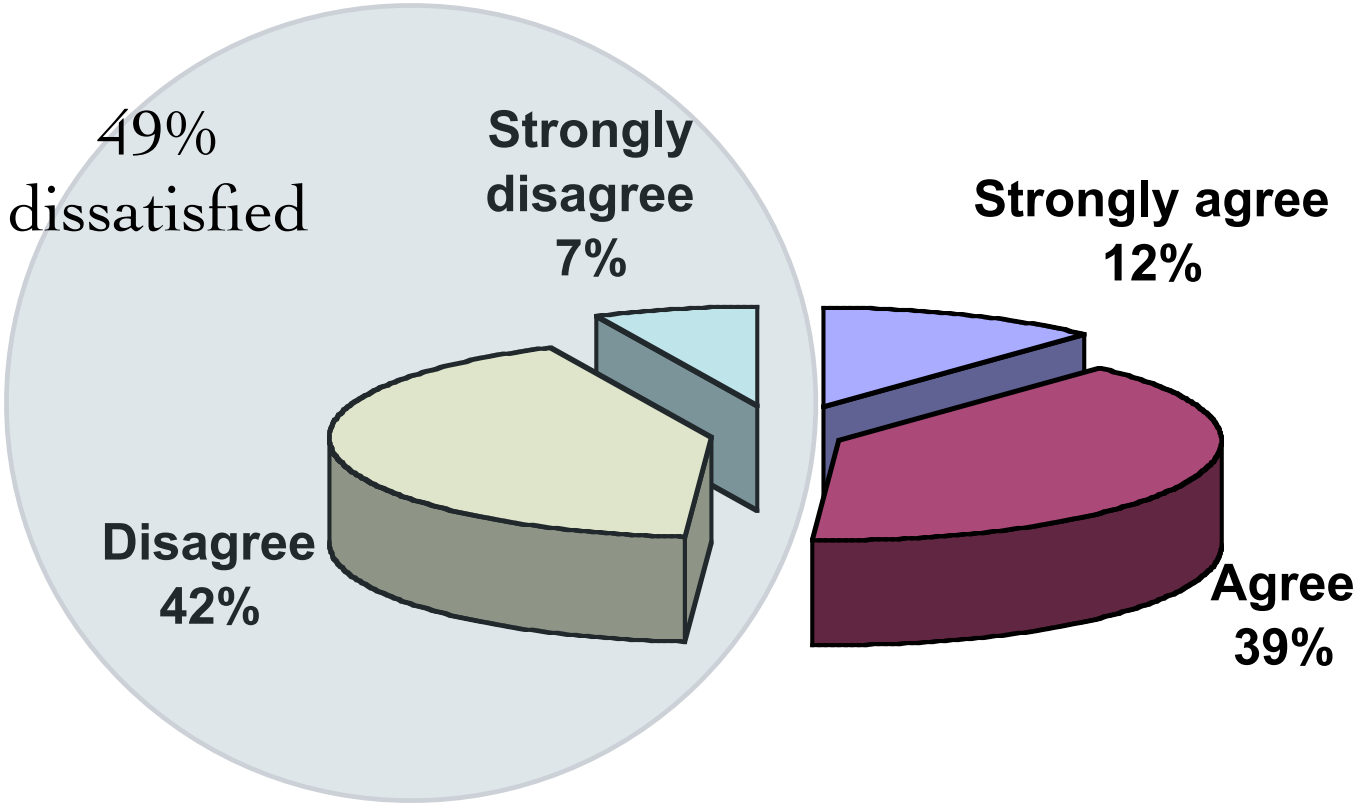
Before and After



How have you served?



"I am satisfied with my personal level of involvement in service activities here at Siena."



Working Session

Campus-Wide Infrastructure:
Self-Assessment & Evaluation

- **Collaboration Across Campus:** consistent collaboration between the Bonner Program and other entities on campus, including student life/affairs, academic affairs, career services, financial aid, development, the President's office, and other major departments

- **Campus-wide Student Participation and Voice:** student participation in service and civic engagement campus-wide; dynamic culture of service permeates the campus and students' academic and co-curricular work; student voice is present in many levels

- **Awards and Recognition:** institution clearly recognizes contributions and achievements of students and community members involved in service

- **Public Relations and Visibility:** college/university has strong public relations presence in which community service and civic engagement is visible; civic engagement center and Bonner Program easily found on website; coverage in major publications

- **Institutional Recognition:** community service and civic engagement are central and defining features of the institution's approach to providing a developmental and educational experience for students and for fulfilling its broader mission

Campus-Wide Infrastructure:
Resources

- Campus-Wide Centers—Implementation Guide (to be expanded)
- Campus Compact (www.compact.org)
- Barbara Holland's work—matrix on institutionalization
- American Association of Colleges & Universities (AACU)
- Corporation for National Service—AmeriCorps, Learn & Service, VISTA, Senior Corps

Campus-Wide Infrastructure:
Best Practices

- Donna Russell, Oberlin College