

Academic Planning Steering Committee

January 20, 2010 at 12:00 pm

Present: Bill Byrnes, Lindsay Fullerton, Christine Frezza, Deb Hill, Megan Lloyd, Baiba Hicks, Kurt Harris, Bruce Tebbs, Karl Stevens, Patrick Clarke, Sarah Brown, Gerry Calvasina, Scott Lanning, Kim Craft & Brad Cook

Excused: Artis Grady

I. Agenda Review

- Bill distributed an article from the Chronicle and the new peer institution set. He asked the committee to research our new peer institutions as we go forward with our planning. Bill reviewed the remainder of the agenda.

II. Update on Planning Forums and Meetings with Colleges and Schools

- Bill announced the remainder of the SPS meetings. After gathering the information from the meetings, Bill will sort through the data prior to the next APSC meeting. The committee discussed the ramifications of losing the title 'liberal.' Concern was focused on losing distinctiveness and the type of funding model we expect the state to fund us on without the Liberal Arts & Sciences distinction. The committee does not necessarily want to see the title gone, but hope that it can possibly come back into the picture later as the LEAP program gains ground.

III. Discuss Focus Group White Papers

- Updates from Focus Groups leaders on current White Papers
 - Faculty Salary Equity – Kim Craft - Of the information in the white paper, specific focus was given to salary benchmarking. A subcommittee will be formed of Kim Craft, Bruce Tebbs, Travis Rosenberg, and possibly John Ault. They will look into the data source of CUPA. The provost asked for this subcommittee to submit concrete numbers so that he can ask for a specific dollar amount when lobbying for money for the upcoming school year. Kim also highlighted the mission based criteria idea explaining that it would be difficult to track and to determine who is eligible for it. They decided to keep it in the paper as an option, although it is not necessarily the route that will be taken. Bill Byrnes will research our peers' compensation systems to guide these discussions/decisions. Lastly, the committee would like to see flexibility in faculty contracts – they would like to see options of summer-fall, or spring-summer. Bruce Tebbs will look into the flexibility of this.
 - Faculty Workload – Bill Byrnes – The white paper from this committee was presented. Bill is currently gathering information from the deans' on how each area is handling faculty assignments. From the current data there is a lot of variability in how workload is being assigned. Bill and Baiba Hicks are creating a database of the committee assignments. Committee members felt that these workload ratios should correlate with the LRT process. Currently the faculty members do not feel like the LRT process is functioning in a balanced manner – too much weight is put on scholarly activity.
 - Interdisciplinarity – Kurt Harris – Kurt highlighted the contents of the interdisciplinarity white paper again. They have not revised this draft from their previous work. Their recommendations are set up in a progressive pattern. They would start with Item 1, then as funding and preparation is in place they would advance to recommendations 2 and 3 respectively. The committee discussed the idea of housing interdisciplinarity in the proposed University College.
 - Faculty Development – Gerry Calvasina – This white paper has stayed the same from previous drafts. They would like to look deeper at Western Carolina, one of our new peers. Gerry stated that they have a very strong faculty development program.
 - Experiential Education – Patrick Clarke – This committee gave strong and wide spread support for this requirement to be implemented. The financial request is \$800,000, but they would suggest a phased in approach. They also recommend that a task force is formed to oversee this project.

- Online Education – Karl Stevens – This white paper will be updated to strike the ‘liberal’ references to align with the current direction of the planning. Permission was given to reconstitute the Distance Education Advisory Committee. The main recommendation for online education is to create a funding and tuition model that directly ties funding to revenues. Bruce Tebbs stated that a committee is working on this task, and have been contacted by Provost Cook to produce information prior to the “Truth in Tuition” hearings that will come up in February or March.
- Committee members were asked to update their white papers and send them to Bill Byrnes to be uploaded to the Provost’s Website. Bill will use the updated information to format and revise the objectives document.

III. Timetable & Tasks – Review

- Information presented below is an update of where we are at.
 - **By February 12th, 2010 we need to:**
 - ~~1. Analyze the organizational environmental scans and local planning sessions carried out by the Provost;~~
 - ~~2. Identify significant issues and gaps currently facing Academic Affairs;~~
 - 3. Assist in developing guiding values and principles to assist with prioritization;
 - ~~4. Assist in drafting a guiding mission and vision for Academic Affairs;~~
 - 5. Commission and review the work of the Focus Groups with special attention to consistency with the Academic Vision, Mission, and Goals;
 - 6. Assist in drafting a 3 year plan identifying strategic objectives and concomitant objectives, action plans, tactical strategies, budgetary requirements and sequencing;
 - 7. Identify standards of performance to measurement and;
 - 8. Propose a system of evaluation.

IV. Next Steps

- At the next meeting we will review and asses the results of the input from all the various focus groups and college and school meetings. The goal of the meeting will be to revise and update the vision, mission and core themes. We will also focus on the strategic initiatives and revised and updated goals. Also, Bill Byrnes announced that we now have a subscription to www.mystrategicplan.com . This will allow us to track and benchmark our progress.

Next meeting

Baiba will send out a doodle to schedule a meeting the week of February 1st.