

# Academic Planning Steering Committee

January 6, 2010 at 3:00 pm

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

## I. Agenda Review

- Bill Byrnes outlined the meeting schedule. Publically thanked Deb Hill and Faculty Senate for bringing the speakers here to discuss liberal education. The speakers were informative and very interesting.

## II. Review of Mission & Vision

- Review and comment on revised draft ideas for the SUU Vision, Mission, Core Themes
  - One overall change to the mission, vision and core themes is that the word 'liberal' is used less. While it is important, it focuses on an issue that is not the center of what we are trying to do.
  - Committee revisions for the Vision:
    - Change "premier learning center" to "premier center of learning."
  - Committee revisions for the Mission:
    - Catalysts (add the 's')
    - Change last sentence to read: **The vibrant geographic location and thriving arts community are essential to the SUU experience.**
  - Committee revisions for the Core Themes:
    - In the Academic Excellence theme:
      - "Hallmark" is repeated – find a different word.
      - The 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence has too many "ands" in it. Revised text: **"SUU's unique experiential learning programs and its eminent and dedicated faculty promote both critical and creative thinking and applied research in a supportive learning environment."**
    - In the Community and Social Responsibility theme:
      - Add comma after the word "citizens."

## III. Reports by Focus Groups

- *Faculty Salary Equity – Kim Craft:* This group will meet again on Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. They will have a white paper ready at the next APSC meeting. The main issues that have surfaced are:
  - Historically money has been given in a way that seems to exacerbate inequities already inherent in the colleges.
  - Need to evaluate the benchmarking model. Pay amounts for credit overloads/special appointments
  - Option of merit pay
  - Proposal for how to distribute funds that we currently have
  - Individual Study
- *Faculty Workload – Bill Byrnes:* This committee is working on setting up another meeting time. The committee was recently sent updates for additional research. The current analysis shows that 41% of faculty are teaching 13 or more credit hours. Workload will look at more than just teaching, they will look at other expectations.
- *Interdisciplinarity – Kurt Harris:* This committee has already submitted their completed white paper. Recommendations were:
  - Interdisciplinary taskforce. Task force would make a 3-5 year plan.
  - As a first step: Part time director of interdisciplinary studies (similar to UGRASP or SL) and develop an office and central location for this. Apply for FIPSE grant to see if we can get funding for this.

- As a second step: Full-time director and office.
- *Faculty Development – Gerry Calvasina*: This committee has already completed and submitted their white paper.
- *Experiential Learning – Patrick Clarke*: The latest draft of their white paper was distributed. They will do more tweaking over the course of the next week. Recommendations include:
  - Rename this as experiential education not just learning. Capture the process of their discussions and make a case of wide spread support for experiential education at this university.
  - Secure appropriate funding as their first step.
  - Go with recommended tracks that resulted from the SWOT analysis.
  - Use a phased in approach with funding reflecting that.
  - Take SL and CE and Global Engagement to the next level creating full time positions with administrative support and faculty involvement and development. Create part time positions for the other areas: leadership, outdoor engagement initiative, etc. The basic idea is to obtain support for the next step for each of these areas.
  - Create oversight and supervision for this overall effort. Create an office of experiential learning with a senior level administrator or possibly link it with existing academic support programs which could be a natural fit for this idea.
  - Create a formal task force charged with getting down to brass tax and how we implement this with a timeline, identify concrete funding sources. Right now looking at \$800,000 to make this come to fruition. \$325,000 to get the initial steps going right now.
  - Patrick asked that the APSC committee members look at the paper and share any feedback concerns, considerations, etc.
- *Online Education – Karl Stevens*: Karl began by announcing that online enrollments are up 19% over fall. This committee will meet again as a focus group to follow up on their white paper. Currently their paper contains:
  - A Brief SWOT analysis for online education.
  - Recommendations:
    - Online should be elevated the same way the university is as we look at adopting higher requirements and status.
    - Looking into a formalized process for how much money is dedicated to online instruction. Need a funding model that is tied to enrollment. They would like a relationship of 1 to 1 for revenue and expense.

#### IV. Draft Framework for Academic Roadmap

- First draft of planning document listing five major initiative areas, goals, objectives and some action plans
  - Bill explained the draft handed out was meant to synthesize thinking. This is an overview of what Bill has collected based on what has been sent to him, discussions with the provost, results of white papers, etc. He is looking for initial notes and feedback. Committee members comments:
    - Bruce says this layout lends itself well to the cost analysis and the main points embedded in the table.
    - Patrick asked what data will be presented to the campus community. He also thought this format is a good way to present the information. It could be good for people to have something to take away from their update meetings.
    - The committee wanted to make sure the items listed in the columns are listed by order of importance.
    - The expected outcomes can be listed on a longer document, but we will keep the shorter tabular document for the outline.
    - The committee liked the idea of a University College. They would like to research others like it to see other models.
    - The committee would like to see an international focus on this document.
    - Bill asked for more feedback on this data by Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **V. Timetable & Tasks – Review – Information distributed in agenda**

- **By January 25, 2010 we need to:**
  - Analyze the organizational environmental scans and local planning sessions carried out by the Provost;
  - Identify significant issues and gaps currently facing Academic Affairs;
  - Assist in developing guiding values and principles to assist with prioritization;
  - Assist in drafting a guiding mission and vision for Academic Affairs;
  - Commission and review the work of the Focus Groups with special attention to consistency with the Academic Vision, Mission, and Goals;
  - Assist in drafting a 3 year plan identifying strategic objectives and concomitant objectives, action plans, tactical strategies, budgetary requirements and sequencing;
  - Identify standards of performance to measurement and;
  - Propose a system of evaluation.

## **VI. Next Steps –Information distributed in Agenda**

- Continue meeting Focus Groups and any other Ad Hoc Committees as needed with the goal of developing a final set of White Papers by January 13, 2010 and beginning the process of creating the content for the planning roadmap.

## **VII. Next meeting**

- Lindsay will send out a doodle poll. The committee will meet once the week of Jan 13-15<sup>th</sup> and again during the 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>.