

Academic Planning Steering Committee

November 30th at 9:00 am

Present: Christine Frezza, Bill Byrnes, Gerald Calvasina, Karl Stevens, Lindsay Fullerton, Deb Hill, Scott Lanning, Sarah Brown, Megan Lloyd, Patrick Clarke, Artis Grady, Kurt Harris, Kim Craft,

Excused: Bruce Tebbs

I. Agenda Review

- Bill Byrnes reviewed the meeting objectives, and announced that there is a webpage on the Provost's website for the APSC information.
- Deb Hill announced that the Faculty Senate will be sponsoring 2 open forums (December 10th & 11th). These open forums will be to give information on historical liberal arts education. Dr. Jack Newell from the University of Utah (Honors & Leadership & Policy program) and Dr. James Faulconer from BYU (Philosophy Department). Forums will run 1- 1.5 hours.

II. Review of Mission and Vision

- The committee discussed whether or not there would be a separate Mission/Vision statement for SUU and academics or if there would only be one.
- The committee worked on "wordsmithing" with 3 sample Mission/Vision Statements. The final draft for each:
 - **Vision:** Southern Utah University will be nationally recognized as a premier liberal arts and sciences university uniting an academic community in a quest for excellence in education with personalized learning and academic integrity enabling students and graduates to honor diverse perspectives and practice critical and creative thinking as they find fulfillment in all aspects of their lives.
 - **Mission:** SUU is the state-designated liberal arts and sciences institution offering outstanding programs founded on a vibrant arts community and unique bioregion. SUU is committed to providing an **excellent** education through a diverse dynamic and personalized learning environment. The university educates students to be critical thinkers effective communicators, highly skilled lifelong learners who are civically engaged, globally responsible individuals demonstrating integrity and empathy as they pursue their lives' ambitions.
 - Look at other words than excellent: exceptional, superior

III. Reports by Focus Groups

- **Faculty Development** – Report from Gerry Calvasina: The committee met and has agreed on a format for their white paper. They have compiled their first set of information and are working on refining it. Alan Hamlin will be putting numbers to the information. They will be prepared to turn in on December 7th.
- **Faculty Workload** – Report from Bill Byrnes: This committee will be meeting Wednesday, December 2nd.
- **Faculty Salary Equity** – Report from Kim Craft: This group is gathering information and will be meeting this week.
- **Interdisciplinarity** – Report from Kurt Harris: This group met last Tuesday. A rough draft has been prepared since their first meeting and they will go over this week. They plan to have their white paper ready on December 7th.
- **Online Education** – Report from Karl Stevens: This group is planning on meeting this week. They may need an extension from the December 7th white papers deadline.
- **Experiential Learning Requirement:** Report from Patrick Clarke: This group is meeting at 3pm today. They expect crossover with the Interdisciplinarity group and these groups will work on sharing information and working together for the best results. The idea of a beta test was brought up, to test these graduation requirements on a small group, before springing them on the entire student body.

IV. Timetable & Tasks Review

- Bill Byrnes was concerned about tasks 2 & 3 given to the committee in the charter. In order to make sure that they are being considered the committee was asked to look at the narratives and data gathered from the provosts strategic planning sessions to make sure voices are being heard. Lindsay will send out the final data to the committee this week. Also the committee was asked to make sure guiding values and principles are being used to assist with prioritization.
- Megan expressed concern that the students would like to efforts focused on graduate preparations –school, career, and life. The steering committee has the charge to make recommendations on this issue. Focus should come during the sophomore or junior year.

V. Next Steps

- White paper meeting on Monday, December 7th.

VI. Next meeting/Future Meeting Times

- The committee will meet at 9:00 am on Monday, December 7th. Future meeting times will be decided for the upcoming school year.