

# Academic Planning Steering Committee

February 24th at 12:00 pm

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*Present:* Bill Byrnes, Sarah Brown, Gerry Calvasina, Patrick Clarke, Kim Craft, Christine Frezza, Artis Grady, Kurt Harris, Baiba Hicks, Scott Lanning, Megan Lloyd, Karl Stevens, and Bruce Tebbs.

*Excused:* Deb Hill, Karl Stevens

## I. Agenda and Document Review

- Bill Byrnes reviewed the agenda for the meeting and distributed the latest version of the Academic Roadmap. He noted that copies of the Roadmap would be made available at the Provost's campus forums.

## II. Update on revisions to Vision, Mission

- Bill Byrnes noted that the Roadmap had been presented at Monday's Deans' Council meeting and that a few suggestions were generated in discussion. Changes and comments were as follows:
  - Vision
    - There was concern about ensuring that the vision was in the future tense. In order to accommodate this, the word "is" was dropped from the statement.
    - The phrase, "and in their chosen discipline," was added.
  - Mission
    - The Mission statement was slightly tweaked in Deans' Council.
    - The phrase, "fully engaged members of society" became "fully engaged and productive members of society."
    - In the third bullet, the phrase "as well as" was deleted.

## III. Review Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Projected Outcomes

- Strategic Initiatives
  - There are now 30 strategic initiatives.
  - "Academic Excellence and Finances" was changed to "Academic Excellence and Resources."
- Key Stakeholders
  - Community members and employers were added to this section.
- KPIs
  - The Key Performance Indicators box was simplified to reflect: Measure of Completion and Target Deadline.
- Bill Byrnes noted that background work of putting dollar signs to these recommendations was ongoing. The Provost was planning to present these financial recommendations to the President's Council March 1.

## IV. Discuss Detailed Objectives and Action Plans:

### Key Strategic Initiatives, Detailed Goals & Objectives, and Appendix B & C

- Bill reviewed Appendix B (2010-2013 Roadmap-Key Performance Indicators) and Appendix C (2010-2013 – Detailed Objectives and Action Plans).
- Bill noted that this strategic plan will be very helpful in working with the changes in NWCCU standards and procedures. SUU will be well prepared to meet the Sept 1, 2011 deadline for accreditation review.
  - Appendix B takes the 30 big strategic objectives and addresses at the top level what the KPI could be and what it would measure.
  - In Appendix C, the strategic objectives are broken down into activities (action plans) and help determine what could be done to achieve these objectives.
  - Bill noted rearrangement of a few bullets stemming from discussion in the Deans' Council.
  - In the course of a discussion on bullet 1.3 (Increase academic standards and rigor), Kim Craft noted that the Business School was going to experiment with a critical thinking test. Bill noted that if this pilot were successful, it could serve as a model for the entire campus.

- During discussion on section two, which focuses on financial resources, Bill noted that recent announcements regarding the proposed second tier tuition increases for other Utah institutions were comparable to our proposals under consideration.
- Bullet 2.5 (Evaluate scholarships, waivers, and financial aid support): The committee felt there should be mention of student employment in this section. Bill noted that it could be addressed in one of the drilled down points.
- In section three (Develop High Impact Educational Programs and Practices) it was suggested that we incorporate NWCCU criteria into our program reviews to avoid duplication of efforts.
- In section four (Increase Student Success and Engagement), Bill noted that formulation of the action plans are still in progress. This job has been tasked out to a committee. This generated a question from Christine Frezza. Is the preponderance of committees being examined? Bill noted that it is being discussed although it is not a top priority presently. It was suggested that any committee that is addressing the cost of proposed projects also include the number of hours devoted to committee work as part of that cost.
- Bullet 5.4 (Develop and implement plans and enhance Library holdings and services): Dean John Eye had provided Bill Byrnes with extensive information for the drill down points behind this bullet.
- As a result of committee work on section six (Faculty Excellence and Development), Bill Byrnes had drafted a faculty workload tracking sheet. He had shared this with the deans and received a positive response. He will incorporate their suggestions and share the revised document in the future.
- A question was raised as to where SCPS fits into this plan. It is presently an outlier and needs to be brought into the plan.
  - One suggestion was to include it as a new category under section three (Develop High Impact Education Programs and Practices).
  - Another suggestion was to include it under section five (Organizational Efficiencies).
  - Bill will work to incorporate it in the most appropriate section.
- Kim Craft suggested concurrent enrollment also needed to be added to the plan.
- In discussion on 5.3 (Create an Office of Institutional Research) Bill noted that the first step is to coordinate present efforts we already have in place before we can spend money to hire an interim director.
- The items in 5.5 (Continue to ensure continuity of high quality service in key student support areas on campus) were drafted in response to Charles Schroeder's (retention expert) findings on campus.
  - SUU needs to improve its customer service.
  - Schroeder's findings indicate that staff is helpful, kind and nice, however, we send students to numerous locations to resolve an issue.
  - Add the word "service" at the end of bullet 5.5.1.
- Bill noted that the online advisory committee will help shape the items in 5.7 (Develop institutional plan and support online and distance education).
- Bullet 6.3 (Create Center for Teaching and Faculty Development): It was noted that Faculty Senate is trying to get this jump started.
  - It was suggested also that recently modified information regarding student evaluations of faculty be incorporated into this section.
- Bill asked that the committee review the documents when they returned to their offices and let him know of additional corrections.

## V. Next Steps

- Bill Byrnes noted that the next meeting's agenda would include a look at the budget and timelines. What can we try to accomplish over the next 6-12 months and then how will we match up the money and people to make it happen?

## Next meeting

March 10th, 2010 @ noon