

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING – Tuesday, November 8, 2011

Meeting called to order by Chair Tommy Cox at 8:35 am. Attending : Rob Sanders, Will Lloyd, Jon Anderson, Betty Ishoy, Debra MacComb, Ebenezer Kolojo, Hannes Gerhardt, Carol Goodson.

Meeting notes reviewed by Committee and approved.

Recap of meeting with VPs: Anderson: someone needs to make a decision about a direction for UWG. Cox: We probably should go ahead and do what we think is best and see how they react, but if your identity is unclear to yourself, how do you see who you are? Anderson: BOR has guidelines for missions and strategic planning, though it doesn't seem as though any USG institutions have tried to follow it (Anderson will locate and distribute it to members). Lloyd: his Subcommittee has not been called together yet because he's not sure what they are supposed to be doing; the President seems to be satisfied with the current Mission, so are we supposed to change it, or not? Anderson: believes we have to state that we are a regional institution, because that is what we are; we need to look at the existing body of documents and make a clear statement so that once SACS is over, we are ready to articulate a vision for the next 10 years... therefore we should basically leave the Mission alone for now. We can put something in place but not release it until 2014, but in the meantime we can articulate what we want for the future. We can say to SACS, we have a Strategic Plan... here's our data... here's our next step. Anderson recommends looking at all the documents, pull out what is relevant for the future and work with that. How does this fit with our goal of being a "destination university?" We are still a 3rd choice for most students even from local counties, and that is what we need to improve. And how do our graduate programs fit in with this?

Strategic Plan, suggestions for changes (Kolojo: the administration is looking to this committee to make some adjustments)

Goal #2: suggested that we change it to reference RPG instead of what we have now

Goal #3: needs to include something about undergraduate enrollment

Goal #7: increasing enrollment to 14,500 is not realistic. It was suggested that the number be decreased.

Goal #8: FT faculty to PT faculty ratio 4.4 to 1? With the current budget situation, that is probably not feasible. (however, this was a strategic statement from the original committee, because nationally, more and more students are not being taught by FT faculty; the committee did not want to continue to rely on adjunct faculty who have no long-term investment in the institution—however, we get more seats with PT instructors and so there is pressure to keep using them). In many cases, however, basic level undergraduate instruction is often best done by instructors who are not engaged in serious research, but who are able to teach basic concepts of the discipline.

QEP (Debra MacComb): has had many meetings with various constituencies.

- Summer program to bring students up to level before they get here
- Re-visioning Area B (B1: professional communication)
- Creating writing-intensive courses in Areas C & E
- Assessment in first year writing by an exam taken in ENGL 1102
- Entire faculty has to get on board with this program, English is not the tune-up shop
- Need to develop support programs for faculty to help them create assignments that are appropriate for discipline-specific writing

SACS Compliance (Abbot Packard not here to report, so Cox updated us)

2.5 not completed last year, so needs to be done now. For the rest, the next step is to go through all of the items we were assigned last year, check URLs to be sure they are correct.

Other Old Business (none)

New Business (none)

Continue to let Cox know when Subcommittees are meeting; he will be making a presentation of our progress at the Senate meeting this coming Friday.

Next SPC meeting set for Tuesday, November 29 at 8:15am in 118 Pafford Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35am.

(notes by Carol Goodson)