


3-30-2016

Strategic Planning Steering Committee Minutes - March 30, 2016

Strategic Planning Steering Committee
University of Nebraska at Omaha

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Recommended Citation

Strategic Planning Steering Committee, "Strategic Planning Steering Committee Minutes - March 30, 2016" (2016). *Steering Committee*. 7.

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Strategic Planning Steering Committee

March 30, 2016

MINUTES

Attending: Paul Barnes, Melissa Berke, Juan Casas, Melissa Cast-Brede, Chancellor Christensen, Bill Conley, Patrick Davlin, Lee Denker, Charlotte Evans, James Freeman, Anthony Flott, Cecil Hicks, Stephen Houston, Brock Lewis, Kathe Lyons, MaryLee Moulton, BJ Reed, Hank Robinson, Jill Russell, Deborah Smith-Howell, Sara Woods

1. Chancellor's Update. The Chancellor was in Chicago yesterday meeting with presidents of anchor institutions. There was discussion about bringing in national foundations to understand the mission of the Metropolitan University; there may be good things on the horizon. NY, Omaha and San Francisco may be locations for meetings with these foundations. They also discussed community forums for strategic planning. The Chancellor thanked Brock Lewis for being our student regent and doing a great job.

2. Update from Working Groups

- "Unit Plan Alignment" Task Force - Lyn Holley (not at meeting). Jill Russell reported that we have started putting the unit plans into Smart Sheet.
- "Updating the Plan" Task Force – Deborah Smith Howell. The Task Force is focused on gathering feedback. They are organizing the Chancellor's survey information and the Strategic Planning Forum input from January. The Task Force is circulating a template to generate ideas from the general community for individual and group feedback.
- "Metropolitan University Mission Communication Plan" – Erin Owen (not at meeting). No report.
- "Strategic Planning Forum" – Kathe Lyons. Forum agenda was circulated. The Forum will be on May 9 back in Milo Bail Ballroom. Save the date cards have gone out. Formal invitation with agenda will go out in the next week or so.
 - Suggestions from the floor – BJ suggested current student and student alumni for the community panel and also suggested a workforce component (lots of discussion at the state level, Accelerate NE); Brock Lewis suggested student research be presented at the panel and BJ Reed suggested translational research. In terms of the community panel, a donor component and public private partnerships were suggested. The Chancellor asked how we invite the community to attend and suggested that the list be circulated to the committee to make sure that external constituencies are represented. BJ indicated community and opinion leaders were on the community invitation list and suggested inclusion of the military advisory group & constituency groups housed in the CEC. Kathe Lyons suggested phone invites might be appropriate. A newsletter will be handed out updating the community on internal issues.

3. Updates from the Constituency Groups

- Student Government – Brock Lewis. Student Government is working with state representatives on power issues. A national group is coming to talk about sustainability. Fifteen resolutions are on the agenda for the next student government meeting. April 21 is the banquet. Brock thanked the group for hearing student concerns. Patrick Davlin will be the new president. He has been in student government since freshman year and was the recent speaker of student government. Davlin is interested in engaging more with students. Bill Conley welcomed Davlin and thanked Lewis for his work especially with the Board of Regents. The Chancellor also thanked Lewis for providing a student voice at the Board of Regents meeting, especially regarding the appropriations for the new dorms.
- Faculty Senate – Lyn Holley (not at meeting). The Chancellor reported lots of positive communication with faculty about collaboration to serve students in the community. Deborah Smith-Howell reported interest in how digital measures are used at the university.
- Staff Advisory Committee – Anthony Flott, incoming committee chair, reported the Staff Engagement Committee is looking for 8 new members. If anyone knows of staff interested in serving, they are encouraged to ask them to apply. The Chancellor said that the Staff Advisory Committee is an important group on campus. Flott reported the Committee passed a resolution banning firearms on campus. Regarding staff inquiries about digital measures, Hank Robinson explained that there are now enough licenses available for all staff to use digital measures. Outgoing committee chair, Michael Perdunn has been addressing wellness for faculty and staff. There is discussion of possibly tying to the \$63 wellness credit.
- UNO Alumni Association/Foundation – Lee Denker. Jill Russell reported that the Alumni Association/ Foundation has been added as an official constituency group for reporting out at Strategic Planning meetings. Lee reported the alumni base is now over 100,000 worldwide and they are working on how to reach this large group. Four members

of the former alumni group (including Lee Denker) are now at the Foundation office in Aksarben Village. Alumni Association/Foundation are moving out of business support into just alumni relations. Short term travel, department funds, will be spun off from their group. The Alumni Association/ Foundation are looking at how the Thompson Alumni Center is being used. The renovation is now complete. Mike Bird and Lee Denker will be meeting with people around campus to discuss alumni outreach. Chancellor thanked Mike Bird and Lee Denker for making the merger go smoothly.

4. HLC/AQIP Update

- Accreditation Update – Jill Russell. BJ Reed thanked Jill Russell and those who work with her on dealing with the explosion in accreditation. Jill Russell provided a handout for the committee to review. The first page is a timeline and the second page is a model for continuous quality improvement. The concept is that each line in the model would be a link to supporting material. A decision support log would capture how we use data to make quality improvements. Deborah Smith Howell suggested every group that meets have an agenda and summary of their meetings. Assessments and sources of evidence are indicated by AQIP categories. The packet also included Key Indicators that would be tracked (corresponding with strategic plan goals); Institutional Actions summarizing what UNO has done to support a culture of continuous improvement were included. The strategic planning draft is intended to address the AQIP prompts. The homework assignment for the committee is to go over this information and provide input. BJ Reed commented that as a decentralized campus, it is more difficult to gather this information.
- AQIP Action Project Updates
 - CALEA – Charlotte Evens. CALEA accreditation policy review is ongoing. They are also examining their department location.
 - The Chancellor interjected that at the meeting in Chicago they talked about sharing metrics about Metropolitan Universities. There was discussion if the metrics are the right metrics. Scholarly engagement and involvement of students may be better metrics and it is important to discuss these metrics with stakeholders.
 - Community Engagement Measures – Deborah Smith-Howell. Keristiena Shenouda and Anthony Starke have been the leads on this project working from the bottom up to see what the perspective is on community engagement. They have conducted 27 interviews of about an hour each. They are doing thematic analysis and the next round of interviews is based on snowball recommendations. The goal is to build a community engagement dashboard. They will submit for CUMU to talk about some of this work.
 - Metropolitan University Mission Communication Plan – Erin Owen. No report.
 - Framework for Shared Understanding – Jill Russell. This AQIP Action Project focuses on the UNO Strategic Assessments Inventory, which depicts institutional-level surveys. It is basically a spreadsheet with key information about a number of national surveys currently in use by multiple departments at UNO. It is intended to support shared awareness of assessments in place at UNO.

5. Announcements

- Working groups, AQIP Action Projects, and the constituency groups need to submit reports ready for sharing/distribution at the May 9 Forum.
- BJ Reed reported that the Diversity and Inclusion team of faculty and staff is working with a consultant to engage with the community regarding these issues. Focus groups will be conducted. This will be a cultural audit.

Upcoming Events/Meetings

- April 27, 2016 – 8:00 AM – Strategic Planning Steering Committee, EAB 200
- May 9, 2016 – Strategic Planning Forum – MBSC Ballroom, 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM; please RSVP to Charlotte Swank