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Strategic Planning Steering Committee Summary, February 23, 2005

UNO Strategic Planning Steering Committee
University of Nebraska at Omaha

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Strategic Planning Steering Committee Summary

February 23, 2005

- I. Meeting opened at 3:10.

- II. Strategic Update: Chancellor Belck
 - a. State budget hearing set for March 15 and Pres. Milliken will be present.
 - i. Proposed increase of 14.2% over next two years for system indicates good news, but it is too soon to tell what the exact figure will be at this time.
 - ii. Will have better idea sometime in April or May
 - b. Still trying to find a way to renovate the Engineering Bldg. for CPACS.
 - c. Steve Conley resigned as Director of Facilities and Planning. The search is on for a new Director.
 - d. Baccalaureate degree for Aviation has been approved, elevating the former undergraduate concentration in Public Administration.
 - e. Omaha North is the area Mathematics and Technology magnet school. Came about because of strong partnering with the community and provides a good opportunity for recruitment into engineering and sciences for UNO.
 - f. 27 infant care stations have been constructed throughout campus making it more convenient for parents, students with children, etc., while visiting campus.
 - g. Upcoming Foundation outreach trips to Scottsdale, AZ and Naples, FL.

- III. Task Force Assignments – see attached.
 - a. Academic Excellence
 - i. In Phase II. Held meeting on February 21 using Group Support Systems software.
 - ii. For each objective of Goal 2: UNO strives to achieve academic excellence...there are about 4 indicators. Meeting was spent identifying strengths/weaknesses for each.
 - iii. Hope to make recommendations and glean qualitative insight that would help Institutional Research develop appropriate measures.
 - b. Communication
 - i. Task force members enlisted Elizabeth Kraemer, SG President/Regent, to improve student numbers at the Advance.
 - ii. Her recommendations include face-to-face discussions about the Advance, access to student org. meetings, targeting student leadership around campus.

- iii. Over the next few weeks she will work with Alex to sign up student participation at the April Advance.
 - c. Advance Planning
 - i. Approximately 1200 invitations will go out to students, faculty, staff, and community members.
 - ii. We could have an overflow of participants, and contingency plans are being worked out with MBSC management.
- IV. Advance Ideas – Spring Advance on Friday, April 8, Ballroom, MBSC
- a. Theme: Celebrating Academic Excellence.
 - b. Tentative agenda includes:
 - i. 8:00-8:30 am – receive participants, provide nametags & seat assignments, poster-walk, and continental breakfast
 - ii. 8:30-9:30 am – introduction and guest panel, “The Economic Impact of Academic Excellence,” perhaps with NU President James B. Milliken, Governor Dave Heineman, Mayor Mike Fahey, Omaha Chamber President Dave Brown (or representatives from their offices)
 - iii. 9:30-10:00 am – roundtable discussion on panel topics
 - iv. 10:00-10:15 am – refreshment break, perhaps segue into “poster session,” where displays/presentations given by faculty, students, and combinations around Ballroom/Aksarben/Nebraska rooms.
 - v. 10:15-??? am – brief presentation about the importance and value of research, academically and economically, to Advance audience by Tom Bragg before poster session, poster session for 30 – 60 minutes
 - vi. ???-11:30 am – Academic excellence task force presentation showcasing current reflections about the strengths/weaknesses of indicators and measures tied to the indicators, and explaining the broader concept of research as an indicator of scholarly excellence as evidenced with the research highlighted in poster session, as stated by: **Sub-goal C: UNO will increase its stature as an institution of scholarly excellence - Objective 1: Increase scholarly activity of faculty and students with particular emphasis on areas consistent with the metropolitan mission.** AQIP presentation about the four task forces charged with this year’s AQIP initiatives and how they will help drive continuous improvement and help with accreditation.
 - vii. 11:30-12:30 – Discussion of Academic excellence/AQIP topics.
 - viii. 12:30-??? – closing remarks and lunch.

This is a current list of volunteers who have agreed to do the following:

Poster session: template creation (must highlight applicability to ‘real world’ issues/problems) and participant recruitment

Frances Thurber

Jim Veiga

Joe Price

Academic excellence/AQIP discussion questions and facilitation

Sheri Rogers (will not be at Advance)

Deb Smith-Howell

Panel Formulation/Discussion questions

Becky Morris (with the help of)

Chancellor Belck

Nancy Castilow

V. Other Advance topics discussed

- a. Linking financial resources to the strategic plan, more specifically how the link might enhance academic excellence
- b. Allowing Advance participants to self select discussion topics during roundtable sessions
- c. Inviting people for just the panel and subsequent roundtable discussion
- d. Making sure that each college is represented in the poster sessions
- e. Creating a map of poster locations for participants
- f. Adding laptops to each table for facilitators to capture responses
- g. Who back-up panelists might be
- h. Making sure the poster presenters highlight some applicability of their research

VI. Next meeting Wednesday, March 23, 2005 – need to have Advance finalized by then.