

Minutes – Strategic Planning Steering Committee (Revised)

Friday, March 13, 2009

8:30 a.m.

409 Miller

Present: Mark Prus, Ray Franco, Mark Yacavone, Greg Sharer, Nasrin Parvizi, Carol Van Der Karr, Mary K. Murphy, Bill Buxton

Absent: Joan Sitterly, Janet Duncan, Lynn Anderson, John Shirley, Peter Dady, Sheila Dai, James Reese, Caroline Kaltfleiter, and Chris Cirmo

SUBCOMMITTEES' REPORTS ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN DEVELOPING DASHBOARD INDICATORS

The dashboard indicators schematic, revised by Carol Van Der Carr to reflect those responsible for each area, was distributed. Further revision will be made to include Mark Prus, Ray Franco, and Peter Dady as being responsible for the category on Student Learning/Development.

Campus Portrait – Nasrin Parvizi and Mary Murphy

Nasrin reported that data for the dashboard will include information about carbon footprint, energy use per building, energy use per student, construction data for last 5 years in a bar chart, PSI (Physical Space Inventory), Classroom Space Utilization, and BCI (Building Characteristics Inventory). According to her, the goal is to reduce the carbon footprint by 80% through the use of wind energy and by selling the boiler system for an energy-saving alternative.

Mary provided a financial portrait of the campus which includes the following documents: All revenues, Measurable revenues, Space utilization (dollars per NCES Classification), Energy costs and usage, January 2009 utility projection. Data about sponsored research activity will be made available upon request. Mary also reported that, excluding capital projects, about 36% of the College's operating cost is supported by tax dollars.

Feedback:

- Include notes to describe the abbreviations used and to clarify some of the data.
- Regarding the IPEDS FIA survey, the faculty/instruction category should be broken down by tenure-track, lecturers, part-time, coaches etc. to get a sense of the expenses that are being charged to the academics that are not actually academic, especially with the coaches. It is true that coaches are professionals who sometimes provide instruction, but taking this apart will provide specifics regarding where we are and hence a framework for directing our resources.
- The fringe benefits and capital projects should be factored into the overall operating costs because they are part of state appropriations. There is a need to arrive at a common definition for what constitutes state support, and to know that the same indicators are being used at sister institutions.

Student Support – Greg Sharer, Sheila Dai, and John Shirley

Greg reported on a preliminary list of selected data sources from which his subgroup pulled or intend to pull questions needed to measure student support. He added that the group noted

overlap in some of the areas. The sources include: NCEE, CSI, Operational Unit Assessment Plans, ACUHO-I/EBI Resident Assessment, SOS, SUNY Cortland Graduate Survey, Annual reports: Division and operational units and ASC satisfaction reports. The information could be more specific, but came in broadly because the strategic initiatives are yet unknown.

In response, M. Prus indicated that he and R. Franco had discussed the possibility of doing the dashboard after the development of the strategic initiatives, but also think it is good to engage in the current exercise as part of the environmental scan.

Feedback

Connect performance indicators to specific strategic initiatives in order to focus our energies. For example, if promoting civic engagement is a strategic initiative, some indicators from the NSSE could be tied to the former.

Indicators can also be connected to existing initiatives using current data

Student demographics: Carol Van Der Karr and Mark Yacavone

Carol reported that Enrollment Management has a 10-year history on student demographics, as well as comparative data across the comprehensives on retention and graduation rate, but was not sure about comparative information on student debt. The data is being prepared for distribution.

In response to a question regarding available data on quality, it was reported that there were some employer surveys which have not yet undergone detailed analysis. There was a recommendation with regards to finding a way to know four or five years later if quality teachers have been produced.

Other

Ray reported that Mark P. and he met with a prospective consultant for the retreat in June. The latter is going to put together a proposal which will be taken to the President's Cabinet for feedback before sharing it with the Strategic Planning Steering Committee.

Mark P. reported Merle Canfield has received 80 survey responses (Re: core values and feedback on the revised draft of the mission statement). There were concerns about some people claiming not to have seen the survey.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 am.

*Submitted by:
Eunice Miller*