

Strategic Planning Committee
Ross Pendergraft Library, Room 325
November 11, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

Present: Dr. Jason Warnick, Mr. Saul Pennington, Ms. Aubrey Holt, Dr. Michael Rogers, Dr. Johnette Moody, Ms. Angela Bonds, Ms. Lesley Snider, Dr. John Freeman, Mr. Wyatt Watson, Ms. Julia Smith, Dr. Lucas Maxwell, Mr. Yasu Onodera, Ms. Sandy Cheffer, Mr. Eliel Mendez, Mr. Tanner Howell, Dr. Eric Lovely, Dr. Stephen Jones, Dr. Ken Wester, Ms. Tammy Rye (by phone), Ms. Jocelyn Flores, Dr. Julie Mikles-Schluterman, Mr. Kelly Davis

Absent: Dr. Daniel Bullock, Dr. Jon Clements, Mr. Randy Horton

Guest: Dr. Hanna Norton, Dr. Christine Austin

Dr. Rogers showed a map of proposed street extensions around the Russellville campus, including the addition of an ATU loop. Dr. Maxwell expressed a concern that farm land is being used for the walking paths. Dr. Warnick encouraged the group to think about purchasing land in addition to buildings when thinking about facilities. Dr. Rogers stated there is a need for increased communication to show the campus population the proposed changes in land acquisition. He suggested adding a page on the website showing a campus master plan.

I. Stakeholder Report

Dr. Warnick read some feedback from the Strategic Planning website, including a comment that the person did not feel involved in the strategic planning process. Dr. Jones stated there should be an "expertise inventory" listing the skills of the faculty on campus so they can be consulted if the topic pertains to their specialty. Dr. Rogers stated the library is purchasing software where faculty can upload their research and said this type of information may be included. A general discussion ensued of what experts are available on campus and how they can be utilized.

Dr. Warnick stated the president and Dr. Mott have indicated the intention of creating a Leadership Program to encourage faculty and staff to raise their profile and promote empowerment.

II. Higher Learning Commission Quality Initiative Project- Dr. Hanna Norton

Dr. Norton stated that she, Dr. Christine Austin, Dr. Beth Giroir, Dr. David Underwood, and Ms. Cheryl Chaney are participating in the Persistence and Completion Academy through the Higher Learning Commission. She distributed a handout that shows their main areas of concern and suggestions for improvement. She stated they would like a military identifier on the university application in order to better identify who is active military or veterans, and organize a way to contact non-returning students. Dr. Warnick suggested having a call center to call students and encourage them to come back to school. Dr. Lovely asked if the Advising Center can help contact freshman or sophomores who are not returning. Dr. Rogers voiced a concern that the Advising Center is overloaded and may not be able to contact individuals who are not returning to school. Dr. Rogers suggested moving second semester sophomores from the Advising Center

to the departments. A general discussion followed about the high workload of advisors and the need for more space and staff in the Advising Center.

III. Report from Working Group Chairs

Dr. Warnick stated that the white papers are due Monday or Tuesday before Thanksgiving. He said he would share the working groups' initiatives with the SPC.

Dr. Rogers said this last Monday three city council members attended the meeting to discuss the relationship between Tech and Russellville, and on Monday the state legislator, state senator, and state auditor from this district will come to discuss the perception of Tech by the state government.

Ms. Cheffer asked where the most appropriate place is to include staff issues. Dr. Rogers said his paper includes information for all university stakeholders, including staff. Dr. Moody and Dr. Jones said staff are included in their group discussions also.

Dr. Jones stated the groups should be deliberate in considering and suggesting new programs.

Dr. Warnick said at the Student Open Forum a student in a wheelchair voiced her concerns about accessibility on campus. He asked the SPC to consider the needs of the disabled community. Dr. Mikles-Schluterman said her group is discussing all subgroups that need support. Dr. Warnick suggested having a student representative be a part of the Executive Council and Ms. Mikles-Schluterman suggested hiring a Student Ombudsman.

IV. Adjournment at 4:48 p.m.

HLC Persistence & Completion Academy Roundtable 10/28-10/30/15
"Bucket List" Notes

Student Success Committee – Nov. 3

Strategic Planning Committee – Nov. 11

Executive Council - TBD

Overall Questions Guiding the Process:

Who is responsible for data/initiatives?

How will it be done?

What is to be done first and where do resources go?

AWARENESS

- Lose students from yrs. 1-2
 - By the third year we have lost the Freshmen class
- 40-45% have to be remediated
 - Only 25% of those remediated make it through
 - Of those who make it through remediation, between 60-70% are successful in credit bearing courses
- Disseminate high impact practices (7 principles)
 - CETL involvement
- See data points

POLICIES/INITIATIVES

- Reexamine scholarship policy
 - Leniency
 - Increasing GPA structure. Why?
 - Recovery
 - Sliding scale and planned action(s)
 - Financial literacy
- Reexamine enrollment cutoff date (less than 5 days)
- Conditional Admission
 - Scores
 - Late enrollment
- Reexamine Drop Date
- \$600 hold policy
- Creation of a Pathway for Plan B Majors
- Uniformity of FYE course
- Greeting after admission to welcome them to ATU
- Develop identifier for military affiliation
- Create plan(s) and tailoring interventions
 - Achiever who is struggling
 - Probation student
 - Conditionally admitted
 - UC admitted
- Probationary policy with timeframe and plan (stick vs. carrot)
- Create Bb mentor for dept./college
- Create On-Track for Faculty
- Contact students to find out why they've not enrolled for next semester

DATA

- Why are they dropping?
- Why withdrawing?
- What is student's intention?
- Failure rate for late enrollment into class?
- Survey regarding student points of contact
- What is persistence (as a predictor) for students not performing in FYE?
 - Analyze at midterm and at final
- Students making satisfactory progress who fail to return
- How do we measure perception of family?
- Identify at risk students who are NOT conditionally admitted
 - Are there particular schools?
- Identify and merge existing data sets (internal and external)
- Attendance as a predictor of success
- Exit survey for why they stayed