

DRAFT

Strategic Planning Committee

Ross Pendergraft Library, Room 325

September 30, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

Present: Dr. Larry Large (by phone), Ms. Angela Bonds, Dr. Daniel Bullock, Dr. Jon Clements, Mr. Kelly Davis, Dr. John Freeman, Mr. Tanner Howell, Dr. Eric Lovely, Dr. Stephen Jones, Dr. Lucas Maxwell, Dr. Julie Mikles-Schluterman, Dr. Johnette Moody, Mr. Yasu Onodera, Dr. Michael Rogers, Ms. Tammy Rye, Ms. Julia Smith, Ms. Lesley Snider, Dr. Jason Warnick, Mr. Ken Wester, and Ms. Jana Crouch

Absent: Ms. Sandy Cheffer, Ms. Aubrey Holt, Ms. Jocelyn Flores, Mr. Randy Horton, Mr. Saul Pennington

I. Stakeholders Report

Dr. Warnick reported the feedback received during the past week included concerns of transparency and faculty access regarding the departmental budgets. He asked the Academic Structure and Faculty Working Group to investigate this further. Dr. Warnick stated some comments had been received indicating senior faculty were not being involved in the strategic planning process. He reported the average length of service of the faculty serving on the Working Groups was 10.5 years, with a median length of eight years.

Dr. Warnick asked the Working Group chairs to continue to invite stakeholders to the Working Group meetings, and to be sure to communicate if a meeting is rescheduled or cancelled. The SPC discussed the best methods for widely communicating meeting times and general information about strategic planning initiatives. Some members did not feel OneTech announcements were sufficient to reach the campus at large, and other members did not believe everyone would want to be inundated with emails. **Update: In order to facilitate frequent communication to interested stakeholders, a strategic planning blog has been established, which feeds to the strategic planning website (<http://blogs.atu.edu/strategicplanning/>). Meetings, announcements and responses to feedback will be posted to the blog on a regular basis, and stakeholders can "subscribe" to receive email updates.*

Dr. Warnick stated a question had been received through the website, asking how auxiliary services were funded. Dr. Jones reported each auxiliary service (athletics, food service, housing, health services, and the Bookstore) is required to, in effect, pay for itself, without costing the university money. There are some exceptions in athletics, which are highly regulated at the state level.

Dr. Warnick noted a clarification to the presentation from the Enrollment and Marketing Working Group from September 23 meeting: Dr. Bullock stated the recommendation of establishing an office with the authority to make changes at the course level, as part of retention efforts, was intended to apply to developmental courses only.

II. Open Forums

Dr. Warnick asked the Working Group chairs for possible discussion themes for open forums within each of their charges. Ideas for themes included integration with the Ozark campus, improving student success through increasing retention and graduation rates, ATU brand and identity, investment in ATU community, budgeting and planning priorities, and faculty role in shared governance. Dr. Rogers also suggested a broad, non-thematic forum in which participants are asked to bring their “top 3 priorities” for ATU for the next five years.

The Russellville open forum sessions were scheduled as follows:

Top 3 Priorities for Tech’s Future

Wednesday, October 7 from 11:00am until 1:00pm
Doc Bryan Lecture Hall

Budgeting and Planning Priorities

Thursday, October 8 from 6:00pm until 8:00pm
Witherspoon Auditorium

Improving Student Success

Monday, October 12 from 1:00pm until 3:00pm
Doc Bryan Lecture Hall

One University: The ATU Brand and Identity

Monday, October 19 from 4:00pm until 6:00pm
Doc Bryan Lecture Hall

Dr. Warnick reported Dr. Anglin had approved the use of a university bus to transport Russellville campus faculty and staff to the Ozark campus on Wednesday, October 21 for their open forum sessions.

III. Reports from Working Group Chairs

Dr. Warnick asked if any Working Group chairs had a significant update. Dr. Mikles-Schluterman reported the Student Success Working Group would be developing an initial, rough draft at the next meeting of possible initiatives to be included in the white papers. Dr. Jones reported Ms. Linda Johnson, Director of Budget, would be discussing the budget and funding at the next meeting.

IV. Integration between Russellville and Ozark Campuses

Dr. Warnick presented some differences between the Russellville and Ozark campuses, as well as the strengths and challenges in further integrating the two campuses. Ms. Snider reported, during the previous budget cycle, Ozark salaries were brought to 65% of the CUPA median. Dr. Lovely noted the discrepancies in pay among the different disciplines on the Russellville campus alone, and indicated it would be expected for salaries to differ between Ozark and Russellville, but did not believe 65% of the CUPA median should be adequate. Dr. Warnick asked for the trends in hiring and retaining faculty. Ms. Snider responded in the LPN department, there is high turnover due to more competitive pay at neighboring institutions.

Dr. Maxwell asked if moving forward with further integration between campuses would inadvertently limit or stifle the desired direction Ozark would like to take, such as becoming a community college. Dr. Rogers stated that conversation should involve more stakeholders from Ozark. Mr. Howell expressed the desire for the partnership between Ozark and Russellville to remain mutually beneficial, but for each campus to maintain a level of distinction.

Dr. Warnick assigned each SPC member to find an innovative idea being implemented at a state or national institution to share at the next meeting. He provided the examples of eliminating textbooks (University of Maryland), expanding the Honors program (UAFS), and transitioning to a “green” campus (University of Central Oklahoma).

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.