

MEETING NOTES

STRATEGIC PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE

12.3.13

SPSC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Max Barnhart, Steve Bradley, Dottie Caplan, Kathleen Carroll, Tyson King-Meadows, Kim Leisey, Vanderlei Martins, Carole McCann, Dan Miller, Bennett Moe, Yvette Mozie-Ross, Philip Rous, Mavis Sanders, Lynne Schaefer, Laila Shishineh, Greg Simmons, Karl Steiner, Jack Suess, Bruce Walz, and Claire Welty.

SENIOR ADVISORS PRESENT:

Lisa Akchin and Michael Dillon.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TEAM PRESENT:

Roland King, Leslie Tinker, and Terri Werner.

AGENDA

Goals for Meeting

Campus Conversation Updates

Social Sciences Chairs & Directors

CNMS Chairs & Directors

Arts Chairs & Directors

Professional Staff Senate

OUE Leadership

Student Affairs Council

Academic Planning & Budget Committee

DoIT Assistant VPs and Managers

Assistant Professors

Draft Strategy Group Charges

Decision: Focus Areas

What We Did/Next Steps

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

Campus Conversation Updates

Steering Committee members reported highlights of discussions held with governance and other groups on campus.

Feedback shared on vision elements included:

- UMBC's leadership role is missing. Look at how many universities come to visit us to explore what we have done and how we have pushed boundaries.
- Referencing the idea of a new model is good.
- There is a difference between size and quality. There are some very good research universities that are not large.
- Globalization and community could be emphasized more.
- *Social responsibility* is a better term than *social justice*. *Social justice* is a loaded term.
- The word *innovation* is missing.
- The word *students* is not in either the current or proposed vision statements.
- One of the things we are known for is our personal caring.

Suggestions regarding focus areas for planning included:

- If we are to be a great university, it must be built on having great students, the best faculty, and excellent research. That is what the big players do.
- An alternative view is that there are other ways to make a great university. A different approach might be more appropriate for UMBC.
- We need to focus on what will give us the biggest bang for the buck. It is about allocating resources.
- We must make sure community colleges are included as part of our extended community.
- If The Student Experience is a focus area, how do we make sure students are considered in other areas?
- The first three areas are critical.
- These three focus areas are too broad.
- It would be ideal if departments came up with their own strategic plans that would roll up into the UMBC plan.
- Predicting the future is problematic.
- Are we focusing on priorities that link to budget?
- We need better balance across the campus; too many departments don't have graduate programs.
- Bringing the research reputation up to the undergraduate reputation is a good goal.
- It is good to focus on a few things; otherwise, nothing will happen.
- Extended connection may not address enough strengthening campus identity and community.
- We should be more selective as a university about the problems we choose to solve. We should apply our talent and link up with others to solve big problems.
- What do we mean by the next level in research, scholarship, and creative activity? Maybe there is an unevenness to be addressed. How do we make that equitable across the campus? There is a distinctive way the sciences garner support and a distinctive way the arts and humanities garner support. There needs to be a way to look at what we value in the University.
- Would like the focus of research metrics to be peer comparison rather than competing silos throughout the campus.
- The economic development area should also address the contributions of the arts and creativity.
- A shortcoming is we don't document what we already do in the partnerships area.
- The focus areas and the vision should relate.

- There are not two sides to the campus: academic and not academic. It's all got to support their success.
- Development of endowment and alumni giving is not here in a visible way.

Decision: Focus Areas

Provost Rous observed that there appears to be much commonality across the campus discussions, as well as ideas emerging that the Steering Committee had not previously considered. He also noted that nearly every group encouraged focusing on a small number of areas and that participants seem to understand that selecting some areas for focus does not mean others are not important.

He proposed that the Steering Committee consider establishing Strategy Groups focused on five areas:

The Student Experience
Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity
Innovative Curriculum and Pedagogy
Extended Connection and Engagement
Infrastructure

He noted that Infrastructure could be a focus area addressed by a Strategy Group and threaded through additional Strategy Groups.

The Steering Committee agreed to proceed with these five focus areas.

Draft Strategy Group Charges

Small groups presented rough draft Strategy Group charges for several emerging focus areas, including possible research questions for Strategy Groups to address. The drafting process will continue into January through small group work.

NEXT STEPS

- Campus outreach conversations continue through mid-December.
- Members will use feedback from the December 3 meeting to continue to draft charges for Strategy Groups.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, January 23
12-3 p.m.
Apartment Community Center Multi-Purpose Room