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| Strategic Planning Committee Meeting |
| NOTES | February 21, 2012 | 4pm | Mod Hall 106 |
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| NOTEKEEPER | MJ BULL |
| Attendees | **□**Gabe Aquino **□**Marijoan Bull **□**Joseph Camilleri **□**Junior Delgado **□**Vanessa Diana **□**Tian-jia Dong (spring) **□**Kelly Galanis **□**Linda Hogan Shea **□**Mark Horwitz (fall) **□**Brian Hubbard **□**Christine Irujo **□**Brad Knipes **□**Brenda Lucas **□**Ryan Meersman **□**Carol Persson **□**Carlton Pickron **□**Laurie Simpson **□** Emily Tobin |
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| Agenda topics |
|  | Prioritizing goals |  |
| Discussion |  |
| The meeting began noting that we were putting the mission statement draft aside for a bit, with the intent of taking it up at the next meeting in a refined form. Hand- outs to the group included the previously emailed draft Goals and Objectives statement and some ideas in response from member Brian Hubbard who could not be in attendance, but submitted his thoughts. There was a brief discussion on the previous decision to use GOALS-OBJECTIVES-ACTIONS as the language to replace the prior plan’s use of STRATEGIC PRIORITIES/GOALS/OBJECTIVES. It was decided to organize this plan around the new terminology. In looking over the draft goals and Brian’s comments, there was a discussion on the need and relevance of the goal for “Communication, Coordination and Collaboration on Campus.” The group felt this is an important focus area for the campus over the next five years and it was decided it should stay. The goal “Expand and Diversify Financial Resources” was considered in light of a need to provide the support for faculty to obtain grants, including addressing buy-outs for class time. There was a discussion of the new grants office and how it is in its infancy but could begin to offer faculty support for grant writing, administration and more. The objectives within this goal should be expanded. TJ reminded the group that our goals should connect directly to our mission, and the heart of that mission is serving the students. Gabe noted the Growth Management goal is appropriate as WSU in the midst of these changes, so the focus cannot be avoided. It was suggested objectives be expanded to address transportation infrastructure as well as buildings. Vanessa suggested we did not need the sixth goal on the draft (Professional Development and Job Satisfaction) and instead could find appropriate places to include the objectives identified on the draft. In a back and forth of ideas, it was suggested by Gabe that the “workload review” item can be seen as not simply a contractual item— for instance the issue of buying out class time with grants is a mechanism that needs to be developed, but would operate within the contract requirements. It was noted that Day Care has been an issue for over 20 years. Turning to the first Goal, Vanessa recommended the wording be broadened from curriculum to student experiences. There was wide agreement on this and a discussion of how students are here for more than what happened in the classroom. Joe noted this is especially relevant to the idea of online classes replacing the university – he believes the place and opportunities outside of the classroom are critical pieces of the experience, and cannot be supplanted through an online education. Joe noted he would like to see wording about maintaining an active presence and support for downtown Westfield revitalization as an objective under the connections to the larger community. Gabe introduced a discussion on the idea of assessment and how we should address it in the plan, as it is clearly is a direction and/or mandate we would be wrestling with in the immediate future. The group discussed LEAP and the Vision Project, and how WSU could use this time to articulate an assessment process the community felt appropriate to our unique culture and purpose. It was noted that Commissioner Freeland will be on campus in March and if questions are allowed, we could put one to him about how state directives supersede our own strategic planning process.  |
| Conclusions | MJ and Laurie will refine the Goal/Objectives Draft based on the input and send it out for review. At the next meeting (March 7, 2012) we will review a refined Mission/Values/Vision Statement and Goals/Objectives, with the intent of finalizing the mission statement and focusing on the objectives under the re-worked goals. |
| **NEXT MEETING: WED MARCH 7, 2012 9am in ELY 112 \*\*\*Note LOCATION** |
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