

Strategic Planning Committee: Academic Values Working Group

Minutes for Tuesday, October 7th 3:30pm Meeting

Location: Condike Science 314

Present: Members: Marcel Beausoleil, Meg Hoey, Annette Sullivan, Ben Railton; Guests: Chris Cratsley, Shari Stokes

Meeting initiated with update on timeline: draft of white paper due to the EPC by 10/31, ideally we'll have it done by the 30th as Meg is leaving town that evening

Process: we submit to EPC, they will post all the working group white papers ahead of November 14th campus open forum

Our conversation started with a draft that Meg has prepared from our prior minutes

Meg also hands out a revised values list for further discussion

Ben raises idea of grouping these values for presentation

Meg asks about framing scholarship and research for students as well as faculty

All these values/focal points will be framed in relationship to LA&S curriculum but not limited to that

Annette asks about ways to make sure teaching is more clearly part of all of our focal points too

Chris raises issues of a) scholarship of teaching and learning; b) engaged/service-based scholarship as part of how we're defining scholarship

Annette follows up with emphasis on including examples for our different values or categories, to give a clearer sense of some of the options they include

Then we do extended work with specific elements within the objectives, resulting in the full draft of the objectives.

Strategic Value: We continue to value a dynamic, generative, engaged, and aware community of teaching and learning.

- a. We will increase opportunities for undergraduate research and capstone projects especially those directly tied to courses that have been reshaped to connect key discipline concepts to a student's active involvement in research. Support of the statement that research and teaching are intertwined and one enhances the other.
- b. We will integrate and broaden opportunities for faculty to collaborate, as well as become versed in new technology within their classrooms. Ensure that faculty members have the teaching tools necessary to adapt to the need for flexibility both within their courses as well as curriculum.

Strategic Value: We value engaged scholarship, including discipline-specific research, scholarship of teaching and learning, service-based scholarship, and so much more.

- a. We will enhance or improve scholarly activities on campus Implement strategically focused, cost-effective enhancements to the infrastructure in support of research, scholarship, and creativity.
- b. We will evaluate all alternate assignment course release time awarded on campus. Guidelines for the granting of release time will be developed, as they will assure equity and consistency in the granting of course releases across campus. Assess whether this alternative assignment release time could be used as a mechanism to enhance scholarly or creative practices on campus.

Strategic Value: We value a culture of student success.

- a. We will be informed by state and national standards and assessments in order to build proactively on the educational experience of our current and future students through P-12 and the skills they have already acquired.
- b. We will use data and assessments to develop a "picture" of our students and ensure that our teaching, curriculum, advising, use of technology, and faculty involvement are all unified around both campus values as well as our learning values as defined in the LA&S curriculum.
- c. We will provide an educational experience that is cohesive and represents an integrated whole, including the LA&S curriculum and is linked to all majors.
- d. We will continue to offer and expand high-impact educational practices that contribute to student engagement, retention, and completion.
- e. We will emphasize modes of program or course delivery and advising that allow for a more customized approach in order to increase the flexibility for the student and contribute to graduation and workforce alignment.

Strategic Value: We value a culture of civic and global responsibility.

- a. We will promote student, faculty, and staff citizenship that fosters integrity, justice, and social responsibility on campus, in the larger community, and globally.