

Albany State University West
Institutional Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
Thursday, February 23, 2017
2:00 p.m.
Student Center, ASU West Campus

Facilitator: Dr. Kimberly Holmes

Present:

Dr. Donyale Childs	Dr. Vickie B. Phillips	Dr. Carolyn Rollins	Ms. Cynthia C. Hoke
Mr. Ken Boler	Mr. Shawn McGee	Dr. Donta Truss	Dr. Olufunke Fontenot
Dr. Frank Archer, III	Ms. Jackie Nicholson	Mr. John T. Clemens	Ms. Barbara Rivera-Holmes
Ofc. James Brackin (Fields)	Mr. Matt Reed	Ms. Katherine Kikivarakis	
Dr. Rhonda Porter	Dr. Jason Goodner	Dr. Brian Kim	
Mr. Joel Wernick	Dr. Cynthia Evers	Dr. Tau Kadhi	

*Guest: Dr. Jeanette Arrington

Dr. Holmes called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Committee members attending a meeting for the first time introduced themselves.

- Motion to approve minutes from previous meeting by Dr. Fontenot.
- Motion approved unanimously.

The committee reviewed items shared at the kick-off meeting that were not discussed due to time constraints:

- a) Suggested Priorities identified by committee members
- b) Context for barriers to strategic planning

Dr. Truss stated the committee should keep in mind that strategic planning should be at forefront of all of our work.

Dr. Holmes asked committee members to review opportunities to work on sub-committees and sign up for at least one. Sub-committees include:

- a) Communication
- b) Input Analysis and Synthesis
- c) Session Planning and Facilitation.

Sign-up sheets were distributed.

Dr. Holmes also asked committee members to volunteer to participate in county listening sessions; at least two per member. Once dates have been confirmed for the county-based community listening sessions, which begin the week of, March 6, 2017, Dr. Holmes will share that information with the committee.

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The group reviewed and discussed the USG Strategic Plan handout. Discussion generated the following topics:

- Research:
 - Expand on world class research
 - Partnerships with other research institutions
 - Partnerships are helpful in increasing opportunity for faculty research
- Economic Development
 - Create a dynamic future workforce
 - Match the needs of the community to the academic portfolio of the university
 - Goal should be development of a sustainable economy
- How do we make this happen
 - Member described needs of the healthcare community; Sees the position of Nurse as one with high demand; Nurse is the foot soldier in the fight to address health care needs of the region
 - Need for ASU have a feeder program to medical school
 - Economic Development that stimulates job growth is critical; Stops drain of talent from the community as very skilled, highly qualified professionals leave the region for better job opportunities
- Increase commerce in the region – Increasing alignment between university resources and needs of the business community
 - Healthcare
 - Logistics
 - Efficiency is important; Must do it right the first time.

Characteristics of other institutions that are admirable:

- Their responsiveness to the needs of their host community
- Credibility, which leads to support such as in-kind services
- Efficiency
- Productivity – Graduating students who have a track record of success in getting jobs in their fields.
- Quality of graduates
 - Value of degree
 - Ability/Competencies that are relevant

A committee member stated all employees should be considered cheerleaders for ASU. “The community is not going to cheer for you if the employees don’t.” If we have 1300 employees, we should have 1300 cheerleaders.

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Suggestions were discussed regarding how to increase energy around partnership with Albany State University. A list of those suggestions are below:

- Show pride
- Offer stability
- Get alumni and students more involved
- Be more efficient in processes
- Foster new ideas and promote innovation in the environment (creativity and energy)

Also the committee discussed options that may be offered to the fastest growing population in the region

- Offer classes to senior citizens.
- Increase presence of students downtown

Observations:

- a) Institutions should move at the same rate of speed as business do.
- b) Declining enrollment will force you to make decisions you would not normally make or do not want to make.

Suggestions on what can be done to help with academic issues for students and what programs can we put in place.

- Getting instructors to update teaching methods to appeal more to technology-savvy students
- Provide more targeted resources for first-time freshmen students to increase likelihood of success
- Increase number of faculty with interest in teaching online
- Increase partnerships with high schools early and interact directly with more high school students
 - Peer-to-peer interaction; college students interact with/mentoring high school students
 - At the point a student enters, be ready and willing to help that student no matter what issues arise.
- More activity and promotion of Move-On-When-Ready initiative
- Summer Bridge Programs

- Identify students who need more college preparation; enroll them during the summer
- A proposal have been submitted to Upward Bound Program (per Dr. Truss).
- Employers are needed to invest in faculty development, such as Phoebe.
 - Have faculty connect to industry standards and processes.
 - Explore ways to modify curriculum
 - Build a stronger curriculum to emphasize advanced skills

New discussion ensued on CORE VALUES:

A committee member shared that we are merging two institutions with solid values. Some values offered for consideration by committee members include:

- Lifelong Learning
- Social Responsibility
- Leadership
- Integrity
- Accountability
- Meeting Educational Needs (locally as well as nationally)
- Adaptability
- Efficiency
- Diversity (intercultural knowledge)
- Campus Climate

Ms. Hoke stated that great effort was previously extended to develop core values prior to completion of the consolidation. A determination was made prior to completion of that work to place the activity “on hold” until consolidation was completed. The committee agreed to review the prior list of suggested values as part of this strategic planning initiative.

Meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.