

University Committee on the Student Learning Experience

Meeting Notes – January 24, 2018

Committee Members Present: M. McCarthy, S. Crahen, C. DeMarchi, K. Feely, R. Hessinger, S. Love, A. Miciak, M. Moroney, P. Mullane, E. Peck, K. Schuele, D. Shutkin, A. Wainwright

1. Notes from the December 13, 2017 were reviewed and approved without changes.
2. Professional Development Day – feedback from participants was very positive and sessions that were not held due to the University closing are in the process of being rescheduled. There was some confusion about who was invited to participate and which sessions/topics are applicable to various constituencies (faculty, staff, and administrative staff). Session descriptions could include information about which audiences may find them most beneficial. The need for professional development activities that engage faculty and staff across divisions was articulated and people found this initiative to be worthwhile. The need for the Center for Teaching Excellence was also mentioned as important to faculty development.
3. Mission Integration Committee – Ed Peck reiterated the proposal accepted at the December 13th meeting that UCSLE endorse and promote the theme of LEADERSHIP for academic and co-curricular programming during the 2018-19 academic year. Al Miciak mentioned efforts in Boler and the Office of Student Engagement to launch a JCU Leadership Initiative (Scott Allen and Kyle O’Dell are coordinating this project). In order to encourage departments to consider the theme in their programming, an announcement needs to go out to department chairs, program directors, endowed speaker programs and the programming committee from the UCSLE chairs. Developing a website and branding logo are also ways to communicate programming related to the theme of LEADERSHIP. As programs are identified and shared, faculty may be able to incorporate events into their curricula. Amy Wainwright suggested that we might be able to gather and share information about programming with the library liaisons from each of the academic departments.
4. Inclusive Excellence Strategic Plan – members of the writing committee shared a draft outline of the Strategic Plan for Inclusive Excellence, which will be shared with the faculty and staff at the Community Forum on January 31st. Ed Peck described the process used to get to the draft and explained that this work is a constitutive element of the Strategic Plan – Goal 2, Objective 4. The plan contains four higher- level university-wide goals with basic objectives. The plan is to adopt a decentralized model setting university-wide goals with basic objectives, in which each area of the university can engage with where they are and what can be accomplished. The plan will need structural oversight for accountability. After the community forum, students will be invited to provide feedback. In general, committee members expressed that the goals are worthwhile to pursue, but some prioritization will be needed to determine what levers will have the greatest impact and how various goals and objectives relate to each other. Several committee members encouraged greater transparency and the need to articulate the context in which we are working – a

culture of privilege. The need to have clear targets and metrics as well as timelines are necessary elements that need to be included in the plan.

5. Experiential Learning – the working group has completed its interviews with academic departments and is putting this information (both quantitative and qualitative) together through the use of Tableau to better communicate what has been learned. The group is now concentrating on surveying and interviewing co-curricular areas to collect information on the various forms of experiential learning through leadership and paraprofessional experiences.
6. Magis Learning Commons – The committee is reviewing RFP's from 6 firms to select a small group of architects who will work on more detailed conceptual designs for the project. Fundraising continues to be a priority for Advancement.
7. Retention Working Group – data has now been collected for 5 years of students and is being analyzed. Information from National Clearinghouse about students who left JCU and transferred to other schools has also been collected. Information regarding participation in various programs of study and co-curricular activities as well as demographic information about students who left the university is also being analyzed for trends and patterns. This information will help guide future work to develop and implement interventions/programs etc. that could enhance retention.
8. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.

Spring Semester Meeting Dates – Wednesdays, 8:30 – 10:00 AM

February 7, 21

March 21

April 4, 18

May 2