

University Strategic Planning Group

M. Johnson, J. Krukones, M. Bishop (20), C. Brennan, T. Bruce, J. Burke,
B. D'Ambrosia, R. Day, C. Dietz, J. Dillon, E. Eickhoff, M. Farrar, D. Hareza, R. Hessinger,
D. Kilbride, A. Kugler, S. Levenson, T. Lewandowski, K. Malone, M. Martin, M. McCarthy,
A. Miciak, M. Millet, M. Morgan, M. Moroney, M. O'Connor, E. Peck, J. Rick, D. Riley,
B. Saxton, W. Simmons, J. Sully, D. Vitatoe

University Strategic Planning Group
Thursday, February 28, 2019
LSC Conference Room

Minutes

In attendance: M. Johnson, J. Krukones, M. Bishop (20), T. Bruce, J. Burke, B. D'Ambrosia, R. Day, C. Dietz, E. Eickhoff, M. Farrar, D. Hareza, D. Kilbride, A. Kugler, S. Levenson, M. McCarthy, A. Miciak, M. Millet, M. Morgan, M. Moroney, M. O'Connor, E. Peck, J. Rick, D. Riley, B. Saxton, J. Sully.

J. Krukones convened the meeting and welcomed the group.

The Minutes of the January 17, 2019, meeting were unanimously approved.

M. Johnson noted the Board of Directors would be meeting next week. He reported that, while we are making good progress with the strategic planning process, arranging for a campus visit by the consultants took longer than expected.

M. Johnson recapped the three strategic planning phases, noting that Phase I, restructuring for operational performance, is largely completed. Phase II, academic prioritization, and Phase III, investments in selective excellence, are both underway.

M. Johnson outlined information on growth avenues for higher education as set forth by AGB (Association of Governing Boards of Colleges and Universities), which he felt important to keep in mind. Due to declining student populations, AGB notes the need to consider: "unbundling" programs and degrees for flexibility and mobility of credits; partnering with community colleges, communities and corporations; and looking at the older student segment and transfer students.

M. Johnson reported that we have engaged Academic Strategy Partners (ASP) as consultants on our strategic planning process. ASP will be on campus April 23 and 24, and will meet with board chair Mike Merriman, incoming board chair Bill Donnelly, the SLT, and other groups. The visit will be used to build awareness and readiness, develop a timetable, assure alignment, and develop a communication plan. K. Malone will serve as Special Assistant to the President and internal facilitator for the project. T. Bruce will assist with data. M. Johnson proposed creating a 12-member task force, which will include 4 board members, 4 senior leaders, and 4 USPG representatives for faculty/staff/students.

In response to a question about USPG's role in the new process, M. Johnson noted that we don't have the answer at this time but will work to link USPG directly with task force representation. He also said that we will explain the history and importance of the USPG to the consultants.

Discussion ensued on the importance of having faculty, a duly-elected staff member, and student representation on the task force, while keeping in mind the overall size of the group. It was noted that the consultants can help address this issue. There was a question of how this plan relates to faculty governance; M. Johnson replied that we will need to have that discussion. He also pointed out that the new Provost will be a conduit from the faculty to the plan. M. Johnson noted the importance of engaging people beyond the task force and of having data-driven discussions, which will help explain why a decision was made. M. Johnson said he will bring these issues to the Board.

A question was posed as to how this process will be communicated to the JCU community. D. Riley noted that there will be a community forum on April 10 at which M. Johnson would be able to present this information. It was also mentioned that it was acceptable to talk about the shifting role of USPG. The president's office will engage with the consultants about these issues so as to provide more details to the community.

J. Krukones noted that specific tasks remain to be completed in connection with the current plan in the remaining weeks of the semester.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Lovequist