

University Planning Group

Thursday, October 10, 2013

LSC Conference Room

Minutes

Present: J. Day, M. Berg, M. Bestul, L. Bowen, J. Carfagno, J. Colleran, S. Crahen, A. R. Day, T. Ficke, J. Krukones, A. Kugler, S. Kus, K. Lis Dean, B. Martin, R. Mausser, M. McCarthy, P.V. Murphy, A. Nagy, K. Rossi, J. Smith, M. Valencia, B. Williams, D. Wong.

The meeting began at 8:42 AM with J. Day welcoming the committee. J. Day asked for approval of the September 19, 2013, minutes. The minutes were approved.

K. Lis Dean began discussing the UPG's Strategic Goals and Initiatives. All goals are in various stages of development, with high priority goals marked in yellow. Meetings with the goal stewards are planned for November and December to discuss how the goals are progressing.

J. Day, K. Lis Dean, and M. Berg presented their work on reaccreditation by the HLC to the Board of Directors yesterday, October 9, 2013.

Today's discussion will address the second step of the self-study for the HLC.

K. Lis Dean and M. Berg will complete the draft of the whole report, sans recommendations, and will release it to the public. There will be a mechanism in place to allow the university community to provide feedback.

Recommendations are still being considered and will include feedback from the broader community.

M. Berg said that the committee wants to make sure the campus feels that they have a voice. He thanked various departments for their help with gathering and vetting the information.

K. Lis Dean shared that the self-study is entitled,

“For the Greater Good”
John Carroll University Self-Study

M. Berg commented that the new HLC process will require more frequent reflection and updating by the campus. The self-study will not be shelved and reviewed ten years later for the next reaccreditation.

University Planning Group

The HLC site team will be on campus February 10, 11, and 12, 2014, to engage and converse with the community.

M. Berg mentioned that they are hoping to have one or two articles in the Carroll News to make students aware of the visit.

Since the 2004 accreditation, there have been significant financial challenges to the families of our future students, wholesale administrative changes on campus, and the completion of two academic planning phases by the Academic Planning Task Force.

K. Lis Dean spoke of morale and communication as the issue that concerned the HLC in both the 1994 and the 2004 reaccreditations. The campus community feels that there has been sharing of information but not much sharing of decision-making. M. Berg expects this section to be the most contentious part of the document.

Concerns were raised that there is not a good vehicle to share information between the many committees on campus and the faculty.

J. Day observed that the HLC self-study forces us to address our weaknesses. He mentioned the campus now is more adept at sharing information and that we have a more user-friendly webpage.

J. Carfagno mentioned that management and communication training was provided for the administrators and senior leaders at all his previous places of employment but not at John Carroll.

B. Williams observed that the frustration that exists on campus stems from the lack of participation in decision-making.

D. Wong inquired about when the survey on morale will be released. M. Berg plans to send it out with the PDF of the self-study.

The discussion moved to assessment. Assessment is now being integrated into places it has not been before, such as the core curriculum. There has been an increase of faculty development, participation in AAC & U assessment workshops, and meetings on topics such as how to write a rubric. Syllabi now have to show which learning goals are being addressed by specific courses.

K. Lis Dean said that, although John Carroll is not where HLC would want us to be in the assessment process, we can demonstrate progress and a commitment to improve.

University Planning Group

The marketing and enrollment sections of the self-study are not strong concerns. Cohesive processes have been developed and improvement is evident.

There has been some concern about diversity in enrollment. Processes and policies have been developed to heighten awareness of diversity on campus. There are mechanisms in place to encourage a more diverse faculty and student body. Increasing diversity remains an important goal.

J. Day mentioned the faculty and student body are more diverse, but asked what our benchmarks are to measure progress in this area.

D. Wong suggested gathering data on diversity among staff and administrators to create a more thorough portrait of diversity on campus.

K. Lis Dean asked for substantive feedback on the tone of the document, reminding everyone that it still is a draft at this point.

J. Day thanked Matt and Kathleen and all of the committees that contributed to the self-study.

The meeting adjourned at 10:03 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Cicirelli