

University Planning Group

Thursday, December 12, 2013

LSC Conference Room

Minutes

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

The meeting began at 8:39 am with J. Day welcoming the committee. J. Day asked for approval of the November 7th minutes. The minutes were approved.

J. Day announced that Goals Three, Eight, Eleven and Twelve would be discussed at today's meeting.

L. Bowen provided an update on Goal Three for which she is the goal steward. This goal addresses sustaining and enhancing diversity and inclusion within the JCU community by implementing the recommendations of the Diversity Task Force.

- ◆ The Diversity Steering Committee (DSC) spent the fall updating Objective 13: Make central our commitment to diversity, inclusion, and cultural competence.
- ◆ The DSC will continue its work during the search for the Assistant Provost for Diversity.
- ◆ The bias reporting tool is being utilized on a continual basis. D. Carter processes reports submitted by students, L. Bowen processes those submitted by faculty, and B. Stuppy processes reports submitted by staff and administrators.
- ◆ The *Stand Up to Bias* campaign seeks to inform and equip the campus community on how to intervene when witnessing an act of bias. The DSC has invested a great deal of energy on the culture and climate of the JCU community.
- ◆ The DSC will next address Object 15: Ensure that depth/breadth of study with regard to diversity, inclusion and cultural competence is part of every student's experience at JCU.
- ◆ In spring 2014 the committee plans to build an inventory of the many ways that the students can develop and experience a diverse world.
- ◆ The DSC will sustain successful programs such as the Safe Zone training.
- ◆ It will also initiate professional development programs for employees.
- ◆ Michael Kimmel, author of *Guyland*, will be speaking on campus during the spring semester.

J. Colleran suggested an additional action step that would facilitate the hiring of faculty who could diversify the existing courses and make a commitment to growing the programs.

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D. Wong added that the statistics about the racial composition of the staff are available and will be included in the John Carroll Fact Book.

J. Day invited J. Colleran and M. Moroney to update the committee on Goal Eight, which addresses strengthening the faculty-based advising program. M. Moroney began discussing Objective 35: Provide more professional development for faculty advisors in schedule planning, advising, and mentoring.

- ◆ The first iteration of a cohort advising program took place in fall 2013. The data from this pilot program are being assessed now.
- ◆ She would like to hold a professional development workshop for summer orientation staff to support their cohort advising.
- ◆ A more equitable distribution of cohorts/advisors has been established.
- ◆ M. Moroney has been invited to speak at the new faculty seminar to encourage the new faculty to advise students and to explain advising practices to them.
- ◆ The academic advising office began surveying the faculty and students about their advising experience and has received a robust response.

J. Colleran shared an update of Objective 36: Strengthen technological support for advising. She mentioned that the registrar and assistant deans are in conversation to develop an instrument for degree audits. An advising template is currently being discussed.

J. Colleran noted that all syllabi have learning outcomes included in them. This achievement has been the goal of the core curriculum committee, and addresses Objective 37: Develop mechanisms to enable students to be more intentional in planning their curriculum.

J. Day asked for an update of Goal Eleven, for which J. Colleran, K. Schuele, M. McCarthy and L. Bowen are the goal stewards. This goal addresses creating an integrative learning experience for all students by means of high-impact education practices (AAC&U).

L. Bowen spoke of Objective 46: Establish the experiential learning vision that will define the John Carroll student experience. She would like to be more intentional and committed to what students avail themselves of on campus, while also paying attention to what prevents some students from taking advantage of opportunities available on campus.

M. McCarthy updated the committee on Objective 47: Provide increased opportunities for experiential learning that integrates academics and co-curricular programs, focusing on wellness, the arts, and on social, cultural, leadership, and spiritual enrichment. He emphasized Action step 4: Develop low-cost or discounted opportunities for students to access cultural and fine arts opportunities in Cleveland, including the CMA, Cleveland Orchestra, Playhouse Square, Maltz Museum, and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. M. McCarthy would like to make these opportunities more accessible to all

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students. Internships are a key component in a student's experience and should be made available to all students. The University's connection with its alumni is crucial to infusing energy into the student intern experience.

J. Colleran would like a bolder vision of Objective 49: Expand international and domestic off-campus experiences available to all students; develop a strategic plan to offer all students domestic and/or international experiential learning.

L. Bowen provided an update on Objective 50: Develop a more robust program of student research. She shared that she and Julia Karolle-Berg are participating in a consortium with area colleges and universities to develop resources for students interested in applying for major fellowships.

J. Day observed that the Kahl Endowment is intended to internationalize the curriculum but is not always utilized every year.

J. Carfagno feels that the data on experiential learning at the University is a wonderful tool for recruiting. He suggested visiting the results site on the JCU webpage that showcases student successes. He also offered to help the goal stewards with Objective 47.

J. Day moved the conversation to Goal Twelve, for which L. Bowen and Michelle Millet are the goal stewards. This goal addresses providing more coordinated programs for academic support/student success.

L. Bowen noted that the gate count in the Grasselli Library is up 30%. The Learning Commons is an opportunity for students to organically and spontaneously learn and study with each other.

- ◆ Biology tutoring is a robust facet of the program, even though its impact on grades has not been established.
- ◆ Study skills workshops have been implemented to address Objective 51: Create Learning Coms/academic resource center. These workshops have not been well attended but will continue.

As part of Objective 52: Coordinate existing student services from across campus, Action step 2 calls for an inventory of existing student services and will be used to assess which services are used by the students and should be expanded.

J. Day thanked the committee, and adjourned the meeting at 10:03 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Cicirelli