**Strategic Planning Steering Committee Meeting**

February 9, 2016

Atkinson 202

The Strategic Planning Steering Committee met in Atkinson 202 on Tuesday, February 9, 2016. In attendance were Mark Pelton, Veronica Womack, Bob Orr, Jan Clark, Dale Young, Juawn Jackson, Susan Allen, Bill Doerr, Sandy Gangstead, Andy Lewter, and Omar Odeh. Chris Ferland was not present.

Dale began the meeting by asking Mark to brief everyone on his recent meeting with President Dorman. Mark stated that he shared the Steering Committee’s draft vision statement with the President and that it had been well received. The President said he didn’t have strong feelings about either “will be” or “aspires to be,” but he did say that “aspires to be” seems a bit redundant in a vision. He also suggested moving “excelling in engaged learning” from the vision to the mission. Taking these suggestions into account results in a new draft vision of:

Georgia College will be a nationally preeminent public liberal arts university.

Members of the Steering Committee expressed approval for the revised draft vision statement and asked Mark to post the vision statement on Front Page and the strategic planning website for further review by the campus as a whole.

A suggestion was made regarding having the meeting notes posted on the strategic planning website. After discussion, it was unanimously agreed to have the meeting notes from all past meetings published on the website for public viewing. Mark was asked to do this in the near future. Mark noted that he is scheduled to make a brief update presentation to University Senate on February 19. The committee also discussed the possibility of holding a campus forum but decided that there were really no results or products worthy of such a forum at this point. After March 7, when the subcommittee reports are due to the Steering Committee, there should be sufficient information to warrant a public forum for the campus. Until then, the Steering Committee will rely on Front Page updates to the campus community.

Next, there was discussion over the role of the Liberal Arts Renewal Project and the transformative ideas groups in the strategic planning process. Dale mentioned that members of the leadership transformative ideas group were well represented on the various strategic planning committees. Mark noted that the Steering Committee had taken care to enlist members of the LARP effort to serve on appropriate strategic planning committees. Town hall meeting notes were also read and further discussed.

The meeting ended with a brief discussion of five draft value statements that Sandy Gangstead and Jan Clark have collaborated on to develop. Dale suggested that everyone take the next two weeks to review the five statements, with further discussion slated for the next Steering Committee meeting. Meanwhile, Dale asked committee members to send their comments or notes on the five value statements to him for further review and collaboration. The following title/heading for the value statements was suggested: “The central values of our preeminent liberal arts university.”

The meeting was then adjourned. The committee will continue discussion of the vision and mission statements, along with the values, at the next meeting February 23, 2016.