**Strategic Planning Steering Committee Meeting**

June 21, 2016

Atkinson 202

The Strategic Planning Steering Committee met in Atkinson 202 on Tuesday, June 21, 2016. In attendance were Mark Pelton, Dale Young, Jan Clark, Bill Doerr, Susan Allen, Laura Ahrens, Andy Lewter, Bob Orr, Ken McGill, and Chris Ferland. Sandy Gangstead, Veronica Womack, and Omar Odeh were not present. Danielle Hewette is out on extended leave, so Mark indicated that he would be responsible for the meeting notes.

Ken McGill was welcomed to the committee as an additional representative for the faculty.

Dale and Mark gave a brief recap of their positive June 13 strategic planning update meeting with President Dorman. A full transcript of that meeting had been distributed to the Steering Committee the previous week.

The committee set July 5 from 1-3 p.m. as the next meeting. The general consensus seemed to be that more frequent meetings will be needed to complete the strategic plan prior to the first University Senate meeting of the year. For that reason, Steering Committee members were asked to place a hold on Tuesday, July 12, from 1-3 p.m., as the committee may need to meet then, too. Atkinson 202 has been reserved for the meetings.

The committee discussed the final initiative of Goal 3 (increase faculty, staff, student, and alumni engagement…). It was decided that this goal needed to focus more on economic development, and probably should be moved by itself to become the new Goal 6. Mark expressed concern about “the creation of a unified concept and vision for the university’s public engagement efforts guided by ENGAGE-Georgia College’s Quality Enhancement Plan.” He noted that ENGAGE was just one part of the university’s outreach and economic development efforts, and that we shouldn’t try to force everything under the ENGAGE umbrella. Andy and Bill volunteered to rewrite this as the new Goal 6.

Also on Goal 3, Ken expressed concern about the placement of undergraduate research in the list of transformative experiences. He noted the need to greater emphasize undergraduate research since that is a major part of what the university does. Mark explained that the list had come directly from a recommendation of the Faculty Subcommittee. A few wording changes were suggested for Goal 3, and three redundant initiatives were eliminated. Ken and Jan were asked to work to make Goal 3 more coherent and less verbose, and to better highlight the importance of undergraduate research.

In the meeting with the President, Dr. Dorman had suggested adding “cost containment,” “prioritization,” and “sustainability of the physical environment and university programs and services” to Goal 4. Mark was asked to work on the wording for this section.

Several wording changes were made to Goal 5 and three of the initiatives under that goal were cut. One initiative (Enhance university services…” was moved under Goal 1 and another (Align processes, services, and human capital…”) was moved under Goal 4.

Mark then noted that he had reviewed all of the goals and objectives developed by the 13 subcommittees to make sure that none had been overlooked by the Steering Committee in the development of strategic goals and initiatives for the university. As a result of this review, it was agreed to add an initiative under Goal 5 dealing with the proportion of tenure track faculty. Mark was asked to write this initiative for review by the Steering Committee. Also, “Improve facility utilization” was added as an initiative under Goal 4.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 5th at 1 p.m. in Atkinson room 202.