**Strategic Planning Steering Committee Meeting**

September 20, 2018

Atkinson 202

The Strategic Planning Steering Committee met in Atkinson 202 on Thursday, September 20, 2018. In attendance were Mark Pelton, Dale Young, Michael Watson, Chris Ferland, Cara Smith, Linda Bradley, Chavonda Mills, Bob Orr, Veronica Womack, David Johnson, and Andy Lewter. Avery Perkins attended in place of SGA President Amelia Lord, and Jennifer Graham attended as Andy Lewter’s guest. Absent from the meeting were Sandy Gangstead, Suzanne Pittman, Susan Allen, and Omar Odeh.

Mark welcomed new University Senate representative David Johnson and SGA representative Avery Perkins to the meeting. Since there were several first-time attendees, he then asked all members to introduce themselves.

At the August meeting, Mark shared with the committee a draft action item related to the conversion of classrooms into active learning spaces. At the August meeting, the committee decided to split the draft action item into two action items, one addressing the physical transformation of spaces through furnishings and technology and the other dealing with training faculty to effectively use active learning techniques and spaces. Cara Smith subsequently drafted two action items, which Mark edited and emailed to the Steering Committee in preparation for discussion at the September meeting. The first action item (G4I6AI2) was approved with the addition of the deans as one of the responsible parties, and the CIO as co-champion.

There was much discussion of the second action item (G5I2AI4), most centering around how to determine if student learning is enhanced by the creation of active learning spaces and the training of faculty on active learning techniques. Since the committee was unclear on the measures already being employed by the Center for Teaching and Learning, Mark offered to invite CTL leadership to the October meeting. Discussion of the second active learning action item will continue at that time.

Cara Smith then gave a visual demonstration of how the strategic plan’s goals, initiatives, and action items appear in the new Watermark program. She noted that her office would soon begin training Champions on Watermark, making it possible for the Steering Committee to begin meeting with the Champions to discuss progress toward their action items. The committee discussed possibly beginning to meet with Champions in late October, with meetings held on Thursdays at the usual 2-3 p.m. time. However, the meeting schedule was not decided upon at the meeting.

The meeting was then adjourned with plans for the committee to meet again on Thursday, October 18, at 2 p.m. in Atkinson 202.