**Strategic Planning Steering Committee Meeting**

September 6, 2016

Atkinson 202

The Strategic Planning Steering Committee met in Atkinson 202 on Tuesday, September 6, 2016. In attendance were Mark Pelton, Sandy Gangstead, Dale Young, Bill Doerr, Laura Ahrens, Chris Ferland, Veronica Womack, Bob Orr, Jan Clark, Susan Allen, Linda Bradley, Ken McGill, and Omar Odeh. Andy Lewter was not present.

The committee reviewed the comments and suggestions for the draft strategic plan received at the three listening sessions and via email. All submitted suggestions were reviewed and thoroughly discussed, and the following changes were made:

1. In the opening text of the value statement section, the word “upon” was changed to “on” with the resulting sentence: “The Georgia College experience, which is rooted in the liberal arts and provides the foundation for a lifetime of learning, growth, and academic excellence, is based on these shared values:”
2. The first value statement (pursuit of knowledge and truth) was changed to read, “The pursuit of knowledge and truth for the public good;”
3. The third value statement (ethical principles) was changed to read, “Ethical principles including integrity, altruism, reason, respect, and responsibility in discourse and actions;”
4. The diversity value statement was rewritten to read, “Diversity and inclusion in all forms.”
5. In the supporting text for the mission statement, “innovative teaching” was changed to “exemplary teaching.” The modified sentence now reads, “We challenge our students through exemplary teaching.”
6. In the supporting text for the mission statement, the word “social” was substituted for “societal,” with the resulting sentence: “The Georgia College student will think clearly and critically in creatively addressing social issues.”
7. In the supporting text for the mission statement, “global citizen leaders” was changed to “global citizens.” The sentence now reads, “We collaborate with community partners to address mutually identified needs while advancing students’ academic and civic learning, in crafting informed, global citizens ready to serve the public good.”
8. In the supporting text for the mission statement, the words “abilities, cultures, and ethnicities” were removed from the diversity paragraph. The new sentence now reads, “We foster a sense of belonging within a campus community that values diversity of intellectual thought, experiences, and identifications.”

In addition to the above changes, several other changes, such as spelling out Georgia College, correcting punctuation, etc., were made to the opening text of the strategic plan document.

Mark, Dale, and Bill agreed to develop a draft template for the implementation of the strategic plan. This draft template will be available for review and discussion at the next meeting on Tuesday, September 20th from 1-3 p.m. in Atkinson 202.