**Strategic Planning Steering Committee Meeting**

July 5, 2016

Atkinson 202

The Strategic Planning Steering Committee met in Atkinson 202 on Tuesday, July 5, 2016. In attendance were Mark Pelton, Sandy Gangstead, Dale Young, Bill Doerr, Susan Allen, Laura Ahrens, and Andy Lewter. Bob Orr, Ken McGill, Chris Ferland, Jan Clark, Veronica Womack, and Omar Odeh were not present.

The committee began by discussing Goal 6 (strengthen community and regional ties) which had been revised and submitted earlier by Bill Doerr and Andy Lewter. Committee members suggested edits to the first initiative and agreed to eliminate the fourth initiative.

The committee next discussed Goal 1. Mark expressed concern that the first initiative mandated that we determine undergraduate admissions criteria and processes most predictive of student success, but not that we do anything with the information. The initiative was modified to include implementation of programs. The second and third initiatives also received minor wording changes, with the most important change being a reference to the Complete College Georgia Plan which is updated on an annual basis.

The one initiative in Goal 2 (graduate programs) was split into two separate initiatives.

The committee liked most of the changes in Goal 3 suggested by Jan Clark and Ken McGill. However, the committee agreed that the institutional level requirement for participation in transformative experiences needed to be an initiative rather than a sub-bullet. Laura questioned why the initiative related to the liberal arts general education program had been omitted in the latest version, and the committee agreed to ask Jan and Ken about this at the next meeting. The committee also agreed to add “staff” to the first initiative related to measuring participation in transformative experiences, since staff in many offices are deeply involved (ENGAGE, GIVE Center, International Education, leadership programs, etc.).

The committee eliminated the final initiative of Goal 4 and made a few small changes in the wording of Goal 5 initiatives.

Dale suggested a change in the order of goals, with the current Goal 3 (distinctive and transformative undergraduate curricular and co-curricular experiences) becoming Goal 2, and current Goal 2 (graduate programs) becoming the new Goal 3. The committee found this to be a logical suggestion. After reviewing the remaining goals, the committee decided that no further changes in order were necessary.

The committee then discussed the review process for the goals and objectives. The committee will meet and make what will hopefully be final changes to the draft on Tuesday, July 12. After that meeting, the draft goals and initiatives will be distributed to the strategic planning subcommittees with some explanatory text. This will close the loop and provide the subcommittees with the opportunity review the goals. Due to the tight timeframe, the subcommittees will have a week to provide input. The Steering Committee will then meet on July 26th to make any final changes to the draft. Mark will request to present to the President’s Cabinet at their meeting on August 2. He will also contact Dr. Chavonda Mills, presiding officer of University Senate, to request time on the agenda for the Senate retreat on August 9.

The next meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, July 12 and Tuesday, July 26. Both meetings will be from 1-3 p.m. in Atkinson 202.