

APARC Minutes

November 03, 2020

Present: Stacey Bosick, Emily Acosta-Lewis, Elita Amini Virmani, Megan Burke, Catherine Fonseca, Rheyana Laney, Elias Lopez, Trevor Paige, Kathleen Rockett, Stacey Bosick, Laura Lupei, Damien Hansen
Absent: Puspa Amri,

Minutes: Kathleen Rockett

Agenda approved; minutes approved.

1. Guest: Provost Karen Moranski Vice President Academic Affairs

Introductions of membership participants with Karen Moranski VP of Academic Affairs Provost Karen Moranski, VP Academic Affairs: Presentation regarding Program review and the suggested charge for APARC in the university Strategic planning. She summarized the Strategic Initiatives key planning of 2017

- Key strategic initiatives: Diversity and social justice, Sustainability and environmental inquiry, Connectivity and community engagement and Adaptability and responsiveness and Core Values should be modeled and a component of every strategic initiative
- Integrated planning is evolving into our strategic planning
 - Various initiatives how it aligns with strategic planning
- In preparation for WSCUS visit
 - Want to verify the integration of Standard 3.4(resource planning and alignment) and Standard 4.6
- Program Review of the work done in last 3 yrs.
 - All programs have met the standards with the exception of one department and they are working on
 - Aligns with academic Excellence, with the Core Values is in the center of our strategic plan and program review.
- APARC has an opportunity to add language to self-study Guide specific to strategic planning as the infrastructure and guide for department planning..

We reviewed and summarized some of our objectives to make use of program reviews, ensure action to improve culture in program academics. To what extent do we get involved and push more diligently? Of our core values, diversity separate WSCUS and DEI initiatives. Think about community involvement and community sustainability. In program review self-study guide we can bullet point and name the important components for departments to follow. i.e. Diversity initiatives which is embedded in the self-study. How do we embed values without telling programs how to do? We want to create an infrastructure for departments to follow. We want the programs to connect to institutional values. **Equity and inclusion** might be the way to focus on diversity initiative in the self-study guide

Program Review evaluates if a department program is doing what it stated it would do. Diversity and Inclusion is where we all want to embrace, yet it is more than writing, it is modeled in the SSU community. Karen suggested APARC would perform the meta assessment across the programs and provide pathways to achievement. We set the framework and address UPRS objectives and goals. Important that programs are not judgmental, measuring own success against departments own goals. Keeping department goals aligned with university objectives.

Priority Strategic plan and core values and is there other areas that will lead us to DEI language.

Reviewed out Self- study guide review break out groups and then come back to larger group to share

2. Recommendation is to:

- Use this “How do the program’s mission, vision and goals relate to the university strategic plan particularly its strategic initiatives review-student success, academic excellence, leadership cultivation, transformative impact and core values? (note core values are not defined) sustainability, adaptability, diversity and social justice. **Head this at the beginning of the Self Study document**
- Unanimous Concern that the university has not defined core values and must be centrally defined by the university to promote and guide department planning.

Elita will seek clarity on how the university defines the core values. Core values have to be centrally defined by the university in order for programs

3. Chair Report:

Syllabus Policy: formatted as accessible to all students and posted into the learning management system (Canvas) is currently on pause. More dialogue in addressing APARC concerns regarding such a posting on Canvas would be an infringement on academic freedom. Sandy Ayala has created an FAQ sheet.

4. Guest Dr. Laura Williams from CAPS Director of Counseling and Psych services

Laura reiterated her concerns regarding student well-being nationwide while experiencing an increase in behavioral health rates and suicide ideation. Furthermore, these concerns are reflected at SSU where students have reported suicidal thoughts (42%) and acute suicidal ideation (35%).

She shared a visual graph reflecting emotions and behaviors that have escalated since Covid 19 and include:

- Depression
- Generalized anxiety
- Social anxiety
- Academic Stress
- Family distress
- Hostility distress

There are critical items within the broader emotion or distress trends SSU students are experiencing with Covid- 19 and have increased significantly. CAPS supports LGBTQ, Latinx students, BIPoC and multiracial students who are reporting a higher spike in the emotions/behaviors as noted above.

Laura heightened her worries about these student behavioral spiking’s especially as we return to campus. She and her department are reaching out to students via multiple venues including Instagram, website resources, CAPS newsletter and phone lines. CAPS through Master Program offers a one unit course which includes 10 free session and 1 unit of credit as support to our students.

- Catherine indicated that SSU “is an 8-5 campus” and resources are limited after this time. Laura indicated that the office is open on Tuesday and Thursday until 6 P and there is a 24/7 phone line students can access.
- Trevor, our student representative indicated through his experience as well as student polling that faculty have been supportive and consistently checking in with students at the beginning of

zoom classes. He also emphasized the importance of faculty reflecting their vulnerability and challenges they are experiencing with Covid to promote an understanding and open mindfulness as we are all navigating this together.

Good of the order.