

Academic Planning, Assessment, & Resource Committee

Date: 24 Oct 2017

Time: 3:00 pm -- 5:00 pm

Place: Academic Affairs Conference Room, Stevenson 1040

Present

Michael Visser (Chair), Laura Krier, Karen Moranski, Merith Weisman, Mark Perri, Beth Warner, Tim Wandling, Daniel Soto (minutes), Laura Watt, Laura Lupei, Kathy Morris, Jason Gorelick

Information Items

- There will be a conversation about emergency protocols at SSU in the future. There will be an "after action" report that takes in feedback from the campus community. A "business continuity plan" would address the impacts of cancelled classes and emergencies.

Business

WASC Team Visit

APARC is the committee charged with aligning resources and our campus educational objectives. APARC is relevant to the second, third, and fourth lines of inquiry on Program Review and Assessment, Budget Process, and Strategic Planning.

Ron Germain (RG), Aaron Christopher (AC) were the WASC representatives

AC - Do we constrain ourselves to academics? MV - Hard to draw a bright line between academics and other campus priorities. AC - how often is the budget process (5 years) LW - strategic plan didn't have clear objectives or action items RG - Are you a subcommittee of the senate? AC - How are members selected? AC - How do you value and include diversity on this committee? KM - Yes, an example are the consequences of the GIG program on different groups. AC - Do adjuncts participate in academic governance? AC - What role do we play in assessment? LK - We are the parent of the program review subcommittee. AC - There was a critique of the assessment program TW - We enable the structures to allow self-assessment. MP - By making meaningful program review we create buy-in from the faculty which improves assessment. LW - The previous administration didn't value assessment while the new administration does. This has contributed to the optimism and buy-in. KM, MP - We need more resources to support assessment. LK - A mechanism for closing the loop was that our Program Review requires an MOU between the department and the administration. AC - Do you have learning objectives on your syllabi LW - We have guidelines but not enforced. AC - Do faculty have training on effective learning objectives?

AC - Do faculty have effective program learning outcomes? Institutional learning outcomes? KM - We started the institutional learning outcomes at the faculty retreat last year. TW - Difficult to measure learning objectives could be deemphasized when time and resources are scarce. AC - Is the lack of faculty recruitment or resources? KM - Resources, our student to faculty ratio has been growing. AC - Is the reliance on part-time faculty unique to SSU? KM - Some departments that have specialized classes have larger numbers of part-time faculty. MW - Housing is another recruitment and retention problem. RG - What are the barriers to assessment MV - Cynicism is a large barrier MP - Training is a barrier, faculty don't know how to write tests KM - Part-times must be included in the assessment resources since they are not currently compensated LK - Assessment has to be part of the assessment process. DS - institutional burnout can be remedied through workload

Talking points for strategic planning

MV provided the outline that we created earlier.

Discussion of the balance between teaching, research, and service. Status and prestige are highest for research and less for service and teaching. LK - without shared vision strategic planning fails. If you do a small committee does the vision, hard to get buy in. KM - we need to have a more explicit mention of part-time hiring and priorities TW, BW - buy in and morale can be improved by having an effective strategic plan document LK - what are the concrete ways that the strategic plan is acted on MP - we should revisit our priorities from last year and update progress to create buy in TW - what are we going to do better and what are the benefits going to be to faculty?

Action Item: MV will incorporate this wider vision generation into point one of the outline. Will rework document based on comments.