

Arts and Sciences Executive Committee

December 4, 2008

Members Present: Kenneth Andrien, Barbara Andersen, Stephanie Bernhardt, Ralph Boerner, Malcolm Cochran, Eric Drake, Lesley Ferris, Avner Friedman, P. Chris Hammel, Joan Leitzel, Matthew Misicka, Matt Platz, John Roberts, Gail Summerhill, David Sweasey, Giff Weary, John Wenzel, Judy Wu.

Visitors: Brad Harris, Ann Rottersman

- I. Welcome and introductions

- II. Overview of Arts and Sciences restructuring by the executive dean
Primary goals:
 - Strengthen academic programs, reduce administrative barriers, and encourage cross-disciplinary collaboration.
 - Position Arts and Sciences to ensure a strong leadership role at the university and a strong voice in university-wide decision making.
 - Refine business processes and reorganize administrative structure to ensure effective, efficient, and less costly operations.Current and future processes:
 - Working with Navigator, an organization management service, to develop more efficient business practices and a more effective administrative structure. We expect to have a report by the end of the month.
 - This winter, we will begin the process of developing a budget model for Arts and Sciences. The model will fit with the university's budget model and priorities, but be particular to the needs and priorities of Arts and Sciences.

- III. Review of working draft of Arts and Sciences goals
Discussion focused on:
 - Quality academic programs – defining quality academic programs; setting ambitious and quantifiable goals; recognizing how different sources/media derive their national rankings; importance of engaging all units in advancing core programs; strengthening academic fundamentals that are not as likely to be funded through external sources.
 - Funding – importance of additional revenue sources such as external research funding and private gifts; effect of current economic climate; positioning academic programs for external funding; importance of competitive faculty and staff salaries in order to meet higher standards of excellence; distribution of resources from development funds.
 - Communication/Recognition – recognition of lower profile donors; communicating with donors regarding impact of their support on students and faculty; increased internal and external awareness of depth of faculty excellence and contributions of staff; benefits of a culture that recognizes and rewards faculty and staff.

- Goal statements – possible goal to address student and faculty diversity in Arts and Sciences; our role as a state university may guide language and vision of goals; relevance of goal statements in guiding future agendas; implications of goals for undergraduate and graduate populations; improving quality of graduate students.
 - Sources to inform future discussions – overview of university budget model and college strategic plans including doctoral reviews.
 - The executive dean encouraged members of the Executive Committee to submit language to rephrase goal statements and to address issues deemed important but not covered in the existing document.
- IV. Letter from Arts and Sciences Staff Advisory Committee was distributed outlining work of previous committee, desire for continuation of these efforts, and concerns regarding configuration of current Executive Committee.
- V. Reviewed future agenda topics. Encouraged submission of future topics and suggestions for revisions to goals.
- VI. Approved following future meeting dates to be held at 3:00 p.m. in UH 156:
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| January 9 | March 13 | May 8 |
| February 13 | April 10 | June 12 |