

Chairs Meeting
March 20, 2019

Present: M. Pomatto, C. Costello, C. Allen, C. Patterson, B. Conrad, J. Oliver, B. Winters, B. Bonneken, C. Geifer, S. Marchant, M. Meier, V. Ryder, D. Whitbeck, T. Flood, N. Grantham, P. Welborn

Strategic Visioning Update:

Dr. Pomatto provided an update on the Strategic Visioning meeting held yesterday. This meeting prioritized the eighty plus ideas submitted to the “idea swarm.” Rpk organized ideas into categories and presented these categories on an idea board; stakeholders were each given five “go,” five “maybe,” and five “no” dots to prioritize idea categories. Stakeholders were divided into six teams, each including student, staff, faculty, and administrative representatives, to discuss the categories. Categories that were labelled priority by the teams included Strategic Partnership Strategies, New Programs, Data-driven Marketing, online/hybrid courses, international student focus, micro-course or credentials. Next step is to form teams to focus on and explore these priority ideas. Dr. Pomatto found the meeting a very positive and encouraging one.

Others who were a part of this meeting commented on the many and various opportunities to participate in the process which they found encouraging. Also, they felt the exercise was a good team-building experience and that one of the goals seemed to be to foster a team spirit, both positives. They were encouraged that the top categories did not seem focused on any one program and that, though all areas did not have the same applications for all colleges, the areas seemed applicable in some way to all programs. Discussion followed on potential directions and concerns, such as reorganization, cost-effective programs, and retention.

Though time-consuming, Dr. Pomatto encouraged participation in the process at all levels. She supported CAS stakeholders taking advantage of all opportunities. The more “voice” CAS has in the process, the more the college’s needs will be reflected in the outcome.

Quality Initiative Update:

The steering team for the Quality Initiative attended the QI Conference in Atlanta. Team members attended diverse pre-sessions and then met as a group to synthesize the information they gathered. Quality improvement that focuses on data analytics, such as using data-driven marketing as a tool shows impressive results in implementation. Discussion of what data we have available (such as DFW rates of gateway courses), how we use it, and how we might use it more effectively followed. It was suggested that another level of assessment that targets specific variations, revealed by data analytics, might be useful and what could be learned from that analysis.

Other Announcements:

Mary Jo Meiers announced that two of this year’s Meritorious Achievement Award winners were from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Department chairs updated the group on events, accomplishments, and activities going on within their respective areas as well as progress on department faculty/staff searches.