

UNIVERSITY PLANNING ADVISORY COUNCIL

April 10, 2003

The sixth meeting of the VSU University Planning Advisory Council was held on April 10, 2003 at 8:30 a.m. in the Rose Room, University Center. President Zaccari and Dr. Marsha Krotseng, Chief Planning Officer, presided over the meeting. Council members present included: Chet Ballard, Myrna Ballard, Bob Bauer, Mike Beverly, Ernestine Clark, Jason Davenport, Martha Giddings, Phyllis Holland, Paula Hutchinson (Ex-Officio), Rebecca Kimbrough, Sue Lampert, Emmitt Nolan, Brian Roberts, Ruth Salter, Ed Sheeley, and Jerry Siegrist (Ex-Officio). Council members Shirley Hardin, Mike Harpe, Charles Moore (Ex-Officio), Patrick Smith, and Lee Williams were unable to attend. Guest: Andy Brovey.

Dr. Krotseng welcomed Council members and informed everyone the agenda for the meeting would be to review and prioritize the action steps associated with funding requests. The prioritized information will then be presented to the Budget Advisory Council.

General discussion

The development of a new Mission Statement for VSU is a key focus of the University Planning Advisory Council. It was noted that the mission statement may help Council members gain perspective regarding the prioritization of costs. It was recommended that a retreat be held on campus for the sole purpose of writing the mission statement. Dr. Krotseng reminded the Council that the Mission Statement must go to the Board of Regents for approval, which may be a lengthy process. Jason Davenport suggested the possibility of creating two or three mission statements and polling the VSU administration, faculty, staff, and students as to which they prefer. It was also suggested that the Council review the low cost action steps that were recommended. It is possible that we could move forward with the low cost items and make immediate changes in some areas.

Sue Lampert suggested the Council review the recommended efficiencies (cost saving suggestions) from the recent VSU Budget meetings to determine if any of the efficiencies could be implemented in order to save money and allow VSU to better utilize existing funds.

Some suggestions by Council members regarding fund requests and efficiencies include the following:

- Facilities – Request individuals from the community who reserve a VSU facility to complete an information sheet. Contact the individuals by telephone or letter at a later date in order to receive feedback regarding the VSU facility.
- Tutoring Center – Review the number of tutoring programs available on campus and consider the possibility of housing these programs in one area on campus rather than at different locations.
- Grants/Gifts-In-Kind – Review the current financial situation and determine if some grants and gifts-in-kind could be allocated to various areas. Also a review of external funding options should be considered.

Dr. Bob Bauer inquired as to how much funds would increase with the anticipated increase in student enrollment for the upcoming fall semester. Dr. Zaccari informed Dr. Bauer that he would provide an amount at the next Council meeting.

Dr. Andy Brovey provided an update regarding the status of the Goal 3 focus groups. He is in the process of meeting with interested individuals to see what their interests are regarding Goal 3. He will then form the focus groups and schedule the meetings for the various groups before the end of this semester.

Dr. Bob Bauer stated the current budget situation may afford VSU the opportunity to collaborate with the private sector in order to be more effective with less.

Conclusion

Dr. Krotseng informed the Council they would receive the efficiency recommendations via e-mail. The Council will also be kept apprised of the status of the focus groups.

The next meeting of the University Planning Advisory Council is scheduled for Monday, May 5th at 1:00 p.m. in the Rose Room, University Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Cutchens