

Meeting Notes  
Strategic Planning Steering Committee (SPSC)  
01/20/09

In attendance:

1. Evonne Roybal-Tafoya (EOS; Centers)
2. Edward Manzanares (Athletics)
3. Seri Nsamenang (Graduate Student Association)
4. Camea Gagliardi-Blea (College of Science and Mathematics; Psychology)
5. Margaret Young (School of Business)
6. Tom Ward (Administration; Dean, College of Science and Mathematics)
7. Eddie Tafoya (College of Humanities and Fine Arts; English)
8. Maureen Romine (Chair, Faculty Senate; Biology)
9. Stephanie Butts (Student Senate)
10. Linda La Grange (AVPAA; Committee Chair)
11. Germaine Alarcon (Administrative Assistant)
12. Jean Hill (Chair, NCA Self-Study Committee; Ex-Officio Member SPSC)

Jean Hill, who is the NCA Self Study Committee Chair, provided the Committee with suggestions about an appropriate approach to the task of creating a strategic plan that included the involvement of every possible relevant entity. She stressed the importance of eliciting feedback at every step of the endeavor and to ensure that the feedback was university-wide as well as community-wide. She also asserted that it wasn't sufficient to elicit the feedback; how that feedback was utilized also had to be documented. She emphasized that part of our task was to anticipate how the Plan would be of use to each of the individual units within the university. For instance, how can the Plan be utilized by departments seeking to create new programs? Once the Plan has been finalized, the university will need to implement an annual assessment of what has, or has not, been accomplished in terms of the stated goals of the Strategic Plan.

We have established a website for the Strategic Planning Steering Committee (SPSC). It was suggested that the site be made interactive so that anyone who had interest in this process could comment on the evolving Strategic plan and contribute suggestions. We intend to publicize the fact that we are undertaking this process and will request that community and university constituents actively participate using our interactive website.

The first task we addressed was the vision statement. There was some discussion about the difference between a vision statement and a mission statement. Samples of both from other institutions will be reviewed at an upcoming meeting.

Draft Vision Statement:

**New Mexico Highlands University, northern New Mexico's university, serves as a catalyst for education, empowerment, transformation, and global understanding.**

Draft Mission Statement:

Note – my notes are nearly illegible, so the mission statement I've written below is close – but not exact. I'll update it after today's meeting.

**New Mexico Highlands University is a diverse comprehensive university that serves the global community by integrating education, research, public service, and economic development. We achieve this through a university-wide effort that fosters a multicultural learning environment, promotes community and individual worth, and advances knowledge.**