

Meeting Notes
Strategic Planning Steering Committee (SPSC)
06/01/09

In attendance:

1. Linda La Grange (AVPAA; Committee Chair)
2. Elizabeth Ratzlaff (EOS; Centers)
3. Roland Salas (Student Support Services)
4. Bill Taylor (VP Finance)
5. Tom Ward (Dean, College of Science and Mathematics)
6. Marcia Henning (Community Member)
7. Jim Fries (President)
8. Camea Gagliardi-Blea (Psychology)
9. Cindy Collins (Mainstreet Association)
10. Bill Sayre (Assessment Officer; Grant Writer)

President Fries opened the meeting by suggesting that the group “brainstorm” about the various issues, expectations, visions, etc., that we thought relevant to a coherent and meaningful 5-year strategic plan. What follows is a list of comments, suggestions, and possible solutions that are presented in the order that they were mentioned during the meeting.

- How extensive do we think our online program offerings will be in the future?
- Should we expand main campus student enrollment to 4,000 students?
- What emphasis should we place on the growth of the Centers vs. the growth of the main campus?
- While serving the regional community, we should also expand our focus to include the global community.
- We need to place more emphasis on the university/community relationship.
- What are our enrollment goals for distance delivery?
- The strategic plan should include our marketing plans.
- We should expand our dual enrollment program and strengthen our partnerships with the K-12 schools.
- When we plan online expansion, we should be sure that online delivery is an appropriate format for the selected programs.
- Why do NMHU students leave campus on weekends?
- We should offer transportation for students wishing to get out and take advantage of the outdoor opportunities in the Las Vegas area.
- We should make outdoor equipment rental available.
- During orientation, are the students given a city tour?
- We need to do a student survey to determine how they think campus life could be improved.
- We should enhance the campus environment to increase student participation in day-to-day student campus activities.
- We could explore the possibility of developing loft housing for graduate students in the upper stories of the buildings on Bridge Street. Housing needs should be in the strategic plan.
- How can we create more of a university-town atmosphere?
- What can we do to encourage faculty to live in Las Vegas instead of living in Santa Fe?

- How do we most effectively get the word out about the campus and community activities that are available to students, faculty, staff, and community members?
- We should focus more on using athletic events to attract community participation.
- The free movies are successful – maybe we should offer more of them and increase the publicity about them.
- The Ray Drew gallery and Burris Hall exhibits should be included on the community tours of galleries.
- What do we mean by the word “sustainable” as it now appears in the draft strategic plan?
- How do we best negotiate the political obstacles when we try to implement new university/community collaborations?
- Should we rethink our open enrollment policy?
- Should we require all prospective students to take the ACT? If so, should we have a minimum score requirement?
- We should establish an honors program, and also recruit honors students from other communities across the state.
- We could have an “honors” residence hall.
- Instead of the Hope scholarship, we could offer a transfer scholarship to try to recruit students who might be disillusioned with the conditions at the larger state institutions.
- What is the overall direction we see the university taking in the next 5-years?
- We should publicize the student success stories and use these stories in the recruitment of new students.
- Where is our focus with regard to graduate vs. undergraduate enrollment?

Our next meeting is June 8th at 1:00. Between now and then, please be thinking about how we can best incorporate the above-listed items into the strategic plan. You are encouraged to submit written suggestions via email before the meeting.