

Planning Council Minutes
Wednesday, March 25, 2015
1:00 p.m.
President's Conference Room

Members Present:

Chris Fastnow
Randy Babbitt
Virginia Bratton
Adam Edelman
Janet Heiss-Arms
Keely Holmes

Chris Livingston
Sara Mannheimer
Brendan Mumey
Nicol Rae
Christina Sieloff
Myles Watts

Others present:

Kathy Attebury
Becca Belou
Becky Mahurin
Brett Walker

- I. Welcome and announcements
- II. Minutes from February 25, 2015 were approved
- III. Information/Updates

A. Update Core Working Group – Brett Walker

Brett Walker updated the Council on the Core working group's preliminary recommendations, tying the proposed and existing Core to the University's Strategic Plan goals. Proposals are likely to include an advanced writing requirement, a revamping of the university seminar, and a much more intentional interdisciplinary approach. An E designation, with a broad definition of engagement, is a possible outcome, perhaps coupled with the R experience. Learning outcomes that the University desires all students to master will need to be defined, and faculty who teach in the Core will have to better incorporate those outcomes and appropriate assessments into their courses.

Discussion:

- the extent to which current core courses will be changed or re-created
- themes or tracks of university seminar
- tradeoffs for employers between general skills and mastery of disciplinary knowledge
- perceptions of core's relevance to students

B. APLU Innovation and Economic Prosperity designation application – Becky Mahurin

Becky Mahurin updated the group on the APLU IEP application and self-study. The designation recognizes universities who impact talent, place, and innovation. The steering committee conducted internal and external stakeholder surveys and held a listening session with statewide business, non-profit, and government reps. Becky interviewed dozens of innovators on campus. A draft of the application will be ready soon with the theme of "Integration," highlighting what we do well and where we want to go.

The Council agreed to use the application as a data source in the prioritization process for FY18 to take place in Spring 2016.

C. Engagement Goal progress report draft
Postponed until April

IV. Discussion: prioritization
Postponed until April

Next meeting: May 27, 2015, 1 p.m., Hamilton Hall – working meeting, 2 hours