

As we head into the final weeks of the fall semester, I offer an update on several planning activities.

Academic Planning

Of particular importance right now is updating the university's Academic Master Plan. Because our reason for existence is to educate our students, the academic planning process must consider the implications of this question: *"Given what we know and the likely fiscal, technological, and societal realities of the future, if we were creating an academic program today to focus on student learning, what would it look like?"*

The Academic Master Plan impacts or significantly influences eight specific functions, activities, or initiatives (follow this link to view a diagram of these interrelated functions: <http://www.angelo.edu/services/strategy/documents/Academic%20Planning%20Centrality%20Presentation%20Nov%202008.pdf>). In addition, and as previously announced, the Academic Master Plan committee has been asked to provide guidance in terms of an institutional vision for the university; i.e., where do we want to be, academically, in the future?

Dr. Coers and Dr. Allen, Provost and Vice-Provost respectively, will soon be announcing the Academic Master Plan committee. I encourage the faculty to support this important initiative and to provide input whenever and wherever possible.

Status of the Mission Statement, etc.

Thank you for all the comments received on the second draft of the mission, value statements, and master goals (to review the most current drafts, visit the Strategic Planning website: http://www.angelo.edu/services/strategy/revised_drafts_without_comments.html). The ad hoc committee has met and has forwarded its final set of recommendations to Dr. Rallo for his review. The mission statement draft as ultimately sanctioned by Dr. Rallo will be announced to the campus community and forwarded to the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and acceptance at their meetings in March 2009.

Strategic Planning Council

A Strategic Planning Council, convened to coordinate ASU's planning activities, will be recommended yet this semester, with its work scheduled to begin in the spring. Comprised of representatives from major campus constituencies, the Council's charge will include building a plan that includes a set of objectives based on the Master Goals as reviewed by the campus community. This plan will then serve as the framework for future decisions related to resource allocations and institutional priorities.

Master Facilities Planning

In addition to the Strategic Plan and the Academic Master Plan, the University's facilities master plan is also being updated. I am chairing this committee. In the spring, we will be identifying members from both the campus community and the community at large to serve on this committee, whose work will be build on the directions and guidelines of the Academic Master Plan.

In the meantime, I encourage you to attend the public forum on December 4 to learn more about construction projects for the coming year. Information about the forum is available on the University's newlinks: <http://angelo.edu/news/FPCforums.html>

Change in Schedule for Planning, Budgeting, and Assessment Workshop #3

The workshops announced for December 3 for academic administration (NOT academic departments) and all other administrative units have been rescheduled to January 15, 2009. All affected departments will be receiving a "hard

copy” announcement of this change. The workshop already slated next semester for academic departments will remain as originally scheduled (January 29).

I know that there is some confusion regarding how planning, accountability, resource allocation, mission/vision, and (for faculty) student learning assessment connect, coincide, or co-exist. At these workshops, I will focus on clarifying these relationships.

April 2 Vision 2012 Campus Forum

On April 2, 2009, the campus will convene to receive a status report on the current year’s goals and strategic directions as identified in the Vision 2012 Forum held one year earlier (April 2, 2008). To review the goals for the current academic year, please use this link: <http://www.angelo.edu/services/strategy/objectives.html>

Thanks for your continuing support of ASU’s planning process.

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