Strategic Planning Committee

October 22, 2004

Minutes

Attending: Dr. Patti Cook, Mike Hosang, Mike Lemons, Dr. Sue Lorch, Jack Benjamin, Randy Duckett, Tony Ateca, Stacie Williams, Dr. Deb Kladivko, Dr. Braden Hosch, Ginger Steel, Dr. Bill Pirkle, Dr. Doug Kuck, Jane Tuten, Dr. Kutty Pariyadath, Dr. Ed Callen, Dr. Deidre Martin, Jose Trevino (Pacer Times), Dr. Tom Reid

Dr. Cook began the meeting by having members introduce themselves. Randy Duckett agreed to take minutes for the meeting today. Members will rotate in taking minutes in future meetings. Brenda Hill will place minutes on the Strategic Planning Web page.

Dr. Cook reviewed the process of previous strategic planning committees, reviewed what we had been done in the past and emphasized that strategic planning was an ongoing dynamic process. She explained the charge of the committee:

- Assess progress on identified plan
- Make periodic reports to campus
- Refine goals/objectives/strategies as needed
- Review of goals and planned activities every 3 years

The specific agenda for 2004-05 is as follows:

- Review “Keeping the Pace”
- Communicate with each other as we accomplish common goals and objectives
- Evaluate
- Educate

Dr. Cook explained each of the above mentioned areas. She asked Mr. Duckett to explain the significance of the “Keeping the Pace” document and encouraged members to read the document which discusses the evaluation of 2003-2004.

Ginger Steel stated that we should look at our priorities in relation to funding.

Dr. Martin briefly discussed a capital campaign for the USC System and stated that the SPC will
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have a critical role in determining campus priorities as outlined through SP or its process.

Dr. Cook distributed several documents: 1) Purpose and membership of the 2004 Strategic Planning Committee, and 2) copy of a paper presented by Dr. Patrick Terezini, “How College Affects Students: A Third Decade of Research.” Dr. Cook indicated that reading this paper was our ‘homework’ for the next meeting on **November 19, 1:00-2:30 pm in**. The meeting will be in Rm 121/SON.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Duckett

University of South Carolina Aiken

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Chair Cook called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. and introduced B. Hosch, who presented an overview of the National Surveys of Student and Faculty Engagement and the results for USCA as they relate to Strategic Planning.

B. Hosch provided SPC members with a handout entitled “Strategic Planning and Results from the National Survey of Student Engagement: Selected Results from 2004 NSSE/FSSE Administration in Context of Pat Terenzini’s Third Decade of Research about How College Affects Students.” The points paralleled those in the Terenzini article regarding overall student engagement and are listed below as in B. Hosch’s presentation:

1.) **Students’ total level of campus engagement**: academic and non-academic activities should reinforce each other. One compelling measure of engagement = time, and USCA students are low in this area compared to students elsewhere.

2.) **Learning outcomes**: students in Terenzini’s study exhibit moderate growth due to college in verbal, math, subject areas, and critical thinking. This appears to be true at USCA.

3.) **Instructional methods**: USCA exhibits wide range, but low in computer-based instruction & student presentations, along with low levels of cooperative, active, service learning.

4.) **Social/out-of-class involvement**: USCA students had about as many or slightly more interactions with students of different race/beliefs and slightly fewer discussions about class-related material outside of class.

Discussion at the conclusion of the presentation included the following points:

- There must be a cultural shift and we should emphasize the need to invest more time on academic work.
- Faculty need to set realistic expectations for class and not alter them because of circumstances (e.g. student employment)
- Students work for a variety of reasons including support for life styles or essentials such as
- Our retention rate is a good or a little better than other public institutions which are our size (60-61%).
- Students are very active on this campus and this impacts their learning.
- The average USCA GPA at the end of the freshman year is 2.4.

After the presentation, the minutes of October 22, 2004, were approved. P. Cook distributed a discussion outline for the Terenzini article. S. Ozment provided context for the article which was a presentation at an American Association of State Colleges and Universities (ASCUE) conference in August 2004. P. Cook stated that a number of the ideas such as multiple learning styles, cooperative learning, and active learning were evident in nursing. S. Ozment noted that many of the applied components may be found in the professional schools. S. Lorch noted that there are multiple opportunities in the English Department for participation such as the Writers Series, Broken Ink, etc. and lots of peer involvement. K. Pariyadath stated that active and cooperative learning are more concrete in the long run.

The next SPC meeting will be on January 21, 2005, at 1 p.m. in Nursing 121. P. Cook will send out information regarding possible priorities for discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane H. Tuten

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