Council of Chairs and Program Directors
Minutes from October 25, 2017 meeting

Present: Oana Armeanu, Glenna Bower, Brody Broshears, Andy Buck, Jeri Burger, Joan deJong, Wes Durham, Bill Elliott, Rocco Gennaro, Mellisa Hall, Matt Hanka, Rick Hudson, Paul Kuban, Sudesh Mujmudar, Oana Popescu-Sandu, Silvia Rode, Mayola Rowser, Todd Schroer, Jeff Seyler, Jack Smothers, Sarah Stevens, Sally Vogl-Bauer, Peter Whiting, Amy Wilson, Gabriela Mustata-Wilson.

The meeting was called to order at 8:36 a.m. by Chair Bill Elliott.

Approval of minutes from September 27, 2017 meeting. Motion by Brian McGuire, second by Elliott Wasserman. The minutes were approved.

Announcements (Provost Ronald Rochon). The provost gave a presentation to the Board of Trustees regarding greater momentum for online programs. He recently visited Academic Partnerships in Dallas for a meeting of presidents and provosts about online programs. He plans to meet with deans to discussing offerings in other programs to keep the momentum going.

There were no university closures last year because of weather. There'll be a meeting to discuss emergency and inclement in the near future. Kindra Strupp will resend the processes for closures to all chairs. Online classes are cancelled if the university is closed.

Dr. Rochon also expressed his appreciation for our participation in the Faculty Convocation on October 13. The showing was great and he thanked everyone for making it a success.

Approval of minutes from September 27, 2017 meeting. Motion to accept minutes and seconded and the minutes are unanimously approved.

Discussion Higher Education Trends with Mark Bernhard, Associate Provost for Outreach & Engagement. Academic and Student Affairs recently dealt with questions regarding a projected enrollment of 15,000 by 2025, based on one of the university's strategic goals. Mark Bernhard provided an overview and posed the question to the chairs: Looking into the future eight years in 2025 with an enrollment of 15,000, what has changed?

He provided a data of projected enrollment of 14,423 based on our current enrollment of 9,024, an increase in 5,399 students. Of these 5,399 projected new undergraduate, graduate, and online students, 1,037 would be in business, 1,250 in engineering, 2,420 in nursing, 200 in liberal arts and 200 in agriculture/agribusiness. Nursing, Engineering, Kinesiology, Criminal Justice, Agribusiness, and Social Work have been identified as key growth areas for the university. USI is growing a lot in graduate programs. USI is struggling in undergraduate enrollment. 25% of USI's student population is 25 years or older.

Following are comments based on questions posed by Mark Bernhard that were captured by Bill Elliott, notes from post-it boards, and Matt Hanka.

General Comments

- New full-time faculty members to teach classes associated with new programs.
- Will new programs mostly be online?
- Is there a scenario that looks at a drop in enrollment to 7,000?
- Need of support staff and programs and increase cost for instructional materials.
- According to the World Economic Forum, 65% of children will one-day work in jobs that do not exist yet.
- What are the new degree and new certificate programs?
- Incorporating technological skills in USI degree programs
- Benefits from all from lending more about classroom/online approaches
- Hybrid programs- partially online and on campus and on Saturdays.
- More flexible in accommodating non-traditional students. New programs will be more interdisciplinary, "breakdown silos"

Programs available in 2025

- Computational Social Science Programming.
- Have students involved in hands-on research, especially graduate assistants
- Hire new faculty that are nimble, flexible, and interdisciplinary
- Need experiential learning opportunities.
- Integration of career readiness built into programs/majors.
- Automation, software engineering, drone technology
- Create a Bachelor's degree of innovation, in addition to B.A. B.S., B.S.N.
- Online Writing Cneter housed in English Department.
- Second Language Acquisition, Policy, and Culture Certificate Programs with embedded certificate programs to target specific populations, not online
- Connection to workforce, provide cultural awareness training
- Training for faculty members to use technology and the need for infrastructure
- Problem solving skills incorporated in degree programs
- Support new position for interdisciplinary programs
- Use marketing resources to target students
- Do more advertising for all degree programs
- Alignment of programs and classes
- Team teaching and shared costs
- Eliminate programs that are no longer viable
- Reallocation of resources
- More programs for shifting national demographics
- Increase in Living Learning Communities (LLCs)
- Growth might be a threat. Why 15,000 students? Can we maintain quality with an enrollment of 15,000?

Scenario: The University hosts monthly meetings on the evolution and future of higher education. How has USI helped developed a nuanced understanding of the changing landscape?

- Good ideas, but "no one asked us" forum to discuss these ideas
- Need to create time to discuss issues and ideas. It needs to be a priority
- This exercise at today's meeting has been more valuable than hearing announcements.
- College meetings should have breakout work groups, department workgroups
- Attend conferences to get outside view on discipline and ideas.
- 15,000. Is it a means or the end itself? Does the number matter?
- Beyond the chairs, how do we better engage faculty with these discussions?
- Share USI's experiences with other institutions. Engage USI students
- Groups should be organized with campus representation.
- We only hear about the outcome, we should be involved in the process.
- Engage faculty in process to develop goals and plans "bottom-up"
- Online forums, including small workgroups
- Time- teaching loads. TIME… TIME
- More opportunities to have open discussions to have ongoing conversations.
- Training adjunct faculty and involving them more in our programs.
- What do we want to achieve as an institution? Does a 15,000 enrollment really tie into our goals?
- Need to see results, or all that we do is "a waste of time."
- More faculty/staff needed. More release time.
- More resources needed.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 29 at 8:30 in BE 3024. The meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Hanka, Secretary