

**Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Strategic Planning Standing Committee, Faculty Senate**

September 5, 2014, 8:00 AM  
History Department Seminar Room, TLC 3205

Meeting started at 8:03 AM

Attendance

Chair            Nadya Williams (History)

Member        Cathi Jenks (Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment)  
                  Danilo Baylen (Educational Technology and Foundations)  
                  Micheal Crafton (Academic Affairs)  
                  Betsy Dahms (Foreign Languages and Literatures)  
                  Christopher Jett (Math)

Guest           Denise Overfield (COAH)  
                  Debra MacComb (English, QEP)  
                  Elizabeth Kramer (Music, Senate Chair)  
                  Craig Schroer (Library; substituting for Angela Pashia)  
                  Felix Tweraser (Foreign Languages and Literatures)

- A. **Introduction of Members and Attendance** (Nadya Williams)
- B. **Goals of the Strategic Planning Committee this academic year** (Nadya Williams)
- C. **Proposal for General Learning Outcomes for Core Area B, and QEP update** (Debra MacComb)

Discussion of the pre-circulated proposal for General Learning Outcomes for Core Area B, and comments on that proposal from Rob Kilpatrick:  
Cathi Jenks gave a report on the time table for the QEP – we have 1 year for discussing Core Area B in connection with the implementation of the QEP.  
Cathi reported that per SACS requirements, we are required to restructure area B, but the actual courses to include in it are up to us.  
Micheal Crafton reminded that we think of what the BOR is likely to approve at the end, since our final proposal must go through BOR Gen Ed committee. There is always the chance for everything getting shot down at the BOR level, so Micheal recommended that this committee think of a backup plan.  
Debra MacComb provided a basic history of the QEP drafting process. The Implementation Committee worked this summer on the proposal that we discussed today, and narrowed down from 6 to 4 Learning Outcomes. Area B1, as proposed, has

just 1 required course, whereas B2 has options built in both in terms of credits (4-5) and courses that count.

Discussion with Debra ensued regarding Area B.

Denise Overfield voiced a concern about unintended consequences of the proposal as it currently stands, since it could raise overall number of credit hours required for graduation to 123, and that is an RPG issue.

Elizabeth Kramer and Micheal Crafton brought up the concern that some current courses in area B2 are huge lecture courses that have little to no writing.

Debra asked the committee to consider what would be the ramifications of going back to the drawing board, and considering making the QEP a broader part of the core.

Discussion ensued of the option of incorporating writing courses in all 5 areas of the Core, rather than just in Area B. Concern brought up in discussion that this would produce RPG issues just as much as when the QEP implementation is restricted to Area B. Besides, assessment nightmare could result, as the same learning outcomes would need to apply across the board.

Micheal summed up the next order of business that will need to happen: priority on the new course proposed for Area B1 to go to the General Education committee; a list needs to be drafted of all courses that would count for the new Area B2.

Discussion occurred on benefits of FL instruction for English writing, and the cross-over of skills.

Denise voiced concern that it would be a big challenge to assess outcomes in every individual course in the particular area (B2).

Nadya argued that the proposal as it currently stands is not ready for the Senate, and recommended that it not go forth for Senate presentation at the September meeting.

Other members agreed.

Nadya brought up the issue of jurisdiction and shared governance: the proposal straddles the work of two committees (this one and UPC). Thus it is tricky to figure out who actually can make any recommendations.

Cathi recommended a joint meeting of the two committees, and that the two committees collaborate on this issue.

Elizabeth recommended that Cher Hendricks be invited to the joint meeting of the two committees.

The same proposal is scheduled as information item for UPC meeting later today, and most of the people in attendance at this meeting will go to UPC as well.

#### **D. KPI update (Cathi Jenks)**

Cathi gave a very brief outline on on-going work on identifying peer and aspirant institutions for bench-marking the new Strategic Plan. Detailed presentation to come at a future meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 am.