

Strategic Planning Task Force
Teaching and Learning into the Future
September 19, 2013
Meeting Summary

Present: Dr. Mary Beth Allen, professor of reading (via phone); Dr. David Buckley, professor of physics; Dr. Johan Eliasson, associate professor of political science; Carole Geary, superintendent of Pleasant Valley School District; Drew Johnson, student representative (co-chair); Anthony Leisen, director, center for teaching with technology; Regina Sayles, graduate student representative; Rahel Teklegiorgis, assistant director of admission; Dr. Keith Vanic, associate professor of athletic training; Dr. Carol Walker, assistant professor of media communication and technology; Ann Duffield, consultant

Guest: Dr. Marcia Welsh, president

Absent: Ryan Clauser, student representative; Dr. Jaedeock Lee, assistant professor of sport management; Dr. John Hauth, professor and chair of athletic training (task force chair)

Scribe: Caryn S. Fogel

Ann Duffield introduced herself and asked the task force members to go around the room and introduce themselves. The Strategic Planning Steering Committee met a few times over the summer and developed four task forces with the following question in mind: **How can ESU be the most student-centered institution possible?**

The steering committee agreed on a three-year plan. This is not just about a document, but a process that will grow.

A question arose about the definition of “student-centered.” The following ideas were discussed:

- Focusing on students in ways that they feel they are being recognized and taken seriously
- Making sure we’re offering students what they need for success
- Offering methodological and technological diversity, and expecting students to take responsibility to use the information and technology provided

A key factor is training and support for faculty and staff. Student engagement is necessary; they need to be part of the process.

Technology is one way to deliver information, but communication is also important. How do we get students to engage in content that makes them passionate about learning? Classroom time can be used to promote active discussion.

Discussion ensued about how to encourage people to overcome their fears about change and how to engage colleagues in this discussion.

- Peer to peer learning / user groups
- Create a climate of “what’s expected”

It was also determined that a percentage of students do not want to take responsibility for their education. How do we engage them? Perhaps more round table discussions with faculty and students are necessary.

The following issues were also discussed:

- A student’s readiness for college (social, emotional, academic)
- What do we do to nurture the students who are not ready? (BALANCE Workshops, for example)
- What does effective learning look like?
- Effectiveness of PowerPoint and efficiency of D2L
- What is the capacity for change at this institution?

The task force discussed the definitions of aspiration/goal, strategy, and tactic from the handout “A Framework for Discussion.” Each task force member was asked to review the handout and develop five sentences on the question, **“What does an innovative teaching and learning environment look like?”**