

**University Leadership**  
December 4, 2018  
107/108 Eagle Commons  
**Meeting Notes**

Attendees:

Jeff Allen, Bill Bailey, Sue Bloom, Frank Connelly, Len Cullo (via conference call), Jen Dutkiewicz, Susanne Fenske, Phil Frese, Rob Gatesman, Pam Gent, Steve Harris, Jason Hendershot, Lisa Hepler, Shawn Hoke, Tina Horner, Ann Jamison, Terry Latour, Jim McGee, Dr. Dale-Elizabeth Pehrsson, Robin Peterson, Mike Phillips, Rein Pold, Sam Puleio, Amy Salsgiver, Steve Selker, Matt Shaffer, Dan Smith, Wendy Snodgrass, Kris Stiglitz, Tammy Varsek.

Absent: Tim Fogarty

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m.

**Venango Campus Report and Recommendations**

Dr. Ellen Foster, Hope Lineman and Tammy Dulaney presented an overview of the Report of the Venango Strategic Advisory Group. The committee consists of 12 members that were established by Mr. Pete Fackler and Dr. Todd Pfannestiel. The report responds to the specific charge that the committee developed. The committee recommended a specific mission and vision for Venango campus. The recommendations in the report focus on the core factors that make Venango campus a valuable resource to the university and to the communities of Venango County. Actions to demonstrate the university's commitment to Venango campus specifically focused on five areas:

1. Campus Leadership and Organizational Structure
2. Academic Faculty and Program Presence
3. Recruitment and Admissions
4. Continuing Progress in Workforce
5. Continuing Progress in Workforce Development Outreach and Opportunities
6. Campus Infrastructure

Hope Lineman noted they plan to explore opportunities to collaborate with the University of Pittsburgh-Titusville. We have similar programs but we will be open to explore all academic programs.

**True North Initiative Update**

Dr. Adam Roberts and Dr. Terry Latour reported on the True North Initiative. The committee has 14 members and will break out into smaller working groups. Each group will be given their own charge and they will bring to the full committee their group's recommendations. The meeting notes can be found on the True North webpage.

**Living and Learning Communities (LLCs)**

Jen Dutkiewicz stated they have nine themed living areas (LLCs) for fall 2019 that students can choose to live on the housing application. They are filling up fast. Her team will work with the community assistants for programming in each.

## **Orientation**

Dr. Shawn Hoke discussed the New Student Orientation (old SOAR) pilot program for mentoring called Peer Adjustment Leaders (PALS). The program is aimed at providing resources and information about involvement opportunities for new students. We plan to launch the new CUStart online orientation program in February and we have spring and summer orientation dates scheduled for on campus. Based on feedback from last year's fall opening, we are shortening the New Student Orientation (NOW) week to four days in August.

## **Retention**

Pam Gent provided an overview of student retention and graduation rates and distributed handouts for discussion. Pam Gent explained retention rates measure the percentage of first-time, full-time undergraduates who return to the same institution the following fall. Percentage of retention is higher at institutions who are more selective in their admission requirements. Clarion is not very selective. She plans to look at our student's SAT Scores because SATs are correlated with family income. Clarion has a higher rate of foster and homeless students. Most often the reason students do not return is financial reasons. We have a task force dedicated to retention.

She also provided data on African American and white FTIC students that indicated we retain more African American males than females. We have a Presidential Commission on Racial Equity looking at some of these issues.

She provided an update on the REUP program and noted we have 17 students now enrolled. We also discovered two students who were eligible to obtain a degree in Liberal Studies from their completed courses.

## **PASSHE Education Intelligence System**

Dr. Pam Gent explained that this system was the mission of Chancellor Green. The office generates education intelligence that supports our 14 universities.

## **Budget Update**

Tammy Varsek reported that we are recording a loss of \$4.6 million going into FY2019 that includes a \$2.2 million compensation savings that we have identified from vacancies that would not be filled. She will be looking at department budgets for savings and making changes in in SAP over the next month.

## **University Advancement Update**

Mr. Jim Geiger provided an update on the Golden Eagles Rising Athletic Campaign. Our campaign goal is \$7 million. We revamped the comprehensive campaign for fundraising priorities to each dean's areas. Dr. Dale stated that the last campaign was not launched because we were not ready. We did not have the relationship with the donors. We want to make sure we are ready this time.

## **Enrollment**

David Dollins provided an update on the STEP Up Plan. Its focus is on helping Clarion strategically and intentionally plan for enrollment sustainability and growth in key areas. The steering committee will meet this week to coordinate with the subcommittees work plan and the TN collaboration.

### **President's Report**

Dr. Dale reported that she has been traveling throughout the region in her first five months meeting with alumni, retirees, donors, graduates, and business leaders. The Provost search is wrapping up this week and the search committee will provide their recommendations. We organized a housing committee to discuss the pricing and cost for students. Dr. Susanne Fenske and Michael Keefer are the co-chairs of that committee. We are looking to not increase housing costs to students for fall 2019. The committee's report is due by February 1, 2019.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

The next meeting of the University Leadership will be held on **Thursdays**, February 14 and Tuesday, April 9, 2019, **107/108 Eagle Commons**.