

>>> James Buckley 11/16/2007 8:36 AM >>>

Jen Lowry (below) wrote up a very helpful summary of the status quo on strategic planning as of last Tuesday's Loyola Conference meeting. My thanks to Jen for her permission to send this out to all CAS Chairs.

I suspect that strategic planning will be a major topic at our lunch with the President on Friday 14 December. We can discuss the role of divisions (Humanities, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences) and departments in this process next semester.

Jim

>>> Jenny Lowry 11/15/2007 7:16 PM >>>

Hi, all,

Hope you're well and gearing up for a very Happy Thanksgiving!

As the Graduate Programs Faculty Representative to the Loyola Conference, I wanted to give you an update on where things stand with the development of the new Strategic Plan.

Father Linnane came to the Loyola Conference (LC) on Tuesday, shared the attached document, and spoke about the continuing process and evolution of what will become the official SP in fall 2008. This was the third time he has been to the LC since discussion began about the plan, which is really terrific; it's clear that he wants everyone to have a voice in the development of the plan, as well as be aware of how things progress.

Please take a few minutes to read the enclosed draft. It is really exciting, and likely has some points that you may or may not have heard yet (e.g., about the university's identity, the importance of diversity, graduate program positions).

As you can see in the document, there is one overarching goal: For Loyola to be recognized as the leading comprehensive Catholic university in the nation.

There are five global attributes that will assist in achieving this goal, as well as four primary pathways that will guide this process.

You may have heard about this already, but in case not, here's a quick summary of where things are in the process, and how things are scheduled to unfold:

1. The LC is the main College governing body that will help shepherd both the development and implementation of the plan.

2. Anne Young is the Project Manager overseeing the development of the plan (as you know, she's fantastic). She reports directly to Father Linnane. Fr. Linnane is taking a very active role in the development of this plan, which is great.

2. Fr. Linnane appointed a Drafting Committee of 8 folks who will help synthesize the various ideas generated for the plan and continually update the various iterations of the plan, until it's finalized in Fall 2008 (when it is scheduled to be approved by the Board of Trustees and rolled out, officially, to the university community).

The Drafting Committee reports directly to Fr. Linnane. I'm on this committee, so if you have ideas you'd like to submit, feel free to send them to me and I'll be sure they are passed along to Anne.

3. Father also created 2 working groups (so far) to specifically address a. diversity and b. living/learning community programs. These groups will generate ideas around these topics, and submit their ideas to the Drafting Committee for inclusion in the plan.

4. He will also be soliciting input from several constituencies during the process (students, faculty, staff, administration, the Board of Trustees, community partners), so please make sure your voice is heard.

This will be particularly important for departments that have graduate programs, as Fr. has made it clear that having healthy graduate programs is imperative for us to become a university, let alone being recognized as the leading comprehensive Catholic university. So, if you have ideas of how to fortify our graduate programs, the Clinic, resources needed, project ideas, etc., let us know!

I will be in touch periodically throughout this process, and if you have questions, thoughts, or suggestions, please feel free to contact me.

Also, you can follow the development of the plan, and submit ideas, at the following website:
<http://www.loyola.edu/about/stratplan>

My best,
Jen