STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2013


Minutes – February 7, 2013

Approved
No objections

Announcements and additional agenda items:

John Eggers spoke on seasonal affective disorder and asked that members be sensitive to those who may be suffering from it. There was a discussion on “Full Spectrum Light Therapy” and the lights that are available for use on campus. A light was present as well as the informational material given to students.

Name Change Requests

Department of Foreign Language & Literature > Languages & Cultures
- Most departments have removed foreign due to the perceived negative connotation.
- What they really do is not the study of literature – it is the study of cultures.
- Other institutions are making this change.
- For accreditation, languages and cultures are discussed.

Questions, Comments and Concerns:
- Approval of the name change does not in any way indicate a curricular change. Rather it more accurately states what the department does.
- Naming of the unit different than the faculty roster assigned to the unit?
- Is this the will of the majority of the department? Was there discussion within? Is there documentation that the name change has been approved by any “body”?
- What departments were contacted about the name change? History was contacted and there was no objection to the change.
- There has been notification of the proposed change to the campus community and no one was present to object.
- The name reflects the “positioning” on the mission and vision of the department and their role.
Office of Sponsored Programs > Office of Research and Sponsored Programs

- Talk of the name change began at the time Dr. Potter came to the university.
- The name change will embrace changes specific to what they do.
- They have added support to their office.
- The Provost is in support of the name change but is out of state and not present at the meeting.

Questions, Comments and Concerns:

- The change more accurately reflects the type of support in the office.
- Scholarship is a more “embracing” term than Research.
- The choice to put Scholarship in the name would be confusing and may bring students in to apply for scholarships. They want to reflect on research. It may be confusing to have scholarship in the name both internally and externally. The department title should not be limiting.
- Others are making the change to Research as well.
- Scholarship may be misinterpreted?

SCSU Online and Distributed Learning, Visioning and Planning Task Force

Orn Bodvarsson gave a power point presentation overview of work done last semester.

Questions, Comments and Concerns:

- There were some concerns on how the “credentialing” will be done.
- There were questions on the department survey that had been sent out and whether it could still be submitted or not.
- What are the “notions” about those who teach online?
- Has there been any market research to recognize the “true demand” for online classes as well as why or why not with regard to taking the classes?
- Are we offering online classes with “Quality Education” in mind?
- We need to publicly acknowledge actions that have already been taken with regard to online classes and teaching them.
- Do we have any assessment of online classes and the availability of them?
- There needs to be more time scheduled for discussion on this topic.

Meeting was adjourned at noon.