

QEP Subcommittee on Curricular and the li Co-Curricular Initiatives

Date: March 30, 2016

Present: Jones, Hansen, Hettinger, Pothering, Fienan, LeVasseur, Mignone, Francis, Ciarcia, Cabot

Guests: Parr, Bloodworth

Discussion of Goal 5

Institutional Resilience

Discussed the linkage of Goal 5 to Goal 2. Consensus formed that to discuss Goal 2 (Synthesize and Integrate Knowledge) as well was too much for this meeting.

Discussion about the creation of a Hub

Subcommittee reminded of the documents that Hansen provided. Jones also add a schematic of a Hub. Discussion moved to the new location for the Office of Sustainability. Moving to 14 Greenway because the College is selling the King Street location. The Knox-Lessane House will be the new location and Physical Plant has already assigned a project manager, Jason Yarborough. Is this an opportune time for the Subcommittee to share with Physical Plant information about its vision for the physical space called the Hub? The answer is not clear.

Structure of the Hub

Can it organized in a non-hierarchical fashion? Can there be one director who reports to the President but understands that the Hub's activities should have impact on many divisions and therefore other Executive Vice Presidents will be expecting accountability reports for certain outcomes.

The Hub should function as an entity that pulls together many different and dynamic activities related to the QEP and current initiatives.

There are no SLO currently linked to Goal 5 in the QEP proposal.

Discussion about the breadth of impact of the QEP. Hettinger reminded the Subcommittee that an institutional commitment to some sustainable practices will create a broad impact even if the initial actions are fairly narrow in scope or few in number. Students and employees will appreciate and come to understand the broad impact of the selected contributions and changes to operations. The permeation of sustainability literacy should be detected in students' coursework after a few years.

LeVasseur announced that the FYE has committed to adding the topic of sustainability as a mandatory topic to be covered in the synthesis seminars.

Can we collect baseline data about students' degree of sustainability literacy in Fall 2016? Can we add relevant questions to any surveys to be administered to incoming students in fall 2016 or fall 2017?

Question rose about the Subcommittee receiving an update regarding the definition of sustainability.

Answer = the assessment subcommittee is revisiting the definition because the proposed definition did not lend itself to assessment. A reworked definition should be circulated within two weeks.

Discussion regarding the relationship between the OOS and the Hub – as stated in the Proposal the OOS will need to evolve into a different entity. Many members of the Subcommittee shared that the Hub should embrace the functions of the OOS as conceived in the Proposal.

The Hub:

Should encompass the OOS and be housed within the same physical space

Coordinate activities across the campus – curricular and co-curricular

Focus on knowledge creation and dissemination

Be the site of the problem solution of the year

Offer many forms of student experiences related to sustainability

Cabot asked whether the QEP budget could include a position for an assessment professional hired to manage all the assessment requirements being built into the QEP plan. At this time, there are no funds being designated for such a position.