Institutional Planning Council

Minutes

October 3, 2005


The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by President Gulley.

Strategic Plan- Campaign Update

Rev. Rowe shared information germane to the current capital campaign to a) construct the library and b) sustain and improve ongoing financial support for the institution. The College is presently involved in the silent phase of this fundraising effort. We are likely to remain in this phase until the majority of the present goal is pledged or in hand. It remains important to continue receiving revenue through the annual fund in support of the College’s ongoing operation while developing additional sources for library construction, endowment growth, and annual fund growth.

Rev. Rowe shared a document outlining the activities and responsibilities presently assigned to the campaign. The public phase is anticipated to begin in 2007. In response to a question from the floor, Rev. Rowe stated that a staff of 18 is currently employed by the College in the Advancement office.

Progress against the campaign goals was shared. It was also shared that Trustee Scott Hawkins is actively leading this effort from the Board’s perspective along with Mr. Charles Smith and Mr. Jared Jones (Leadership Council). Volunteer solicitation committees are meeting approximately every other month.

Sustainability Task Force Report

Dr. Sarah Beth Mallory presented an overview of the task force, its history and present functions. The task force annually submits a report to the president suggesting means to improve the College’s ecological impact on the community and the College’s influence on students through the curriculum and opportunities for hands-on experiences. She also presented information supporting the need to continue the work of the task force. The Council was reminded of the upcoming web cast on October 26, 2005 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. addressing campus sustainability.

Dr. Mallory asked the Council to continuously consider the role of sustainability as it plans the future of the College.
Benchmark Institutions

Dr. Jay Simmons is leading a discussion for the Academic Council as they consider the work of Dr. George Kuh in his book *Student Success in College*. This book presents results of an in-depth study of institutions demonstrating extraordinary performance on the National Study of Student Engagement (NSSE).

Evening College

Dr. Linda McMullen shared information about the Evening College suggesting that approximately 100 students have been enrolled in the fall term each of the past several years. Recently, the Human Development program has become very popular although graduating with this degree no longer enables a graduate to enter public schools as a teacher due to changes precipitated by the No Child Left Behind Act. This issue is being addressed by Dr. McMullen and Dr. Livingston in the College’s Education Department. Dr. Simmons is now meeting with Evening adjunct instructors in order to ensure their development and commitment to the standards of academic rigor expected by the College. A number of full time faculty are now teaching in the Evening.

Brewton-Parker has recently opened an evening campus in Newnan and may develop into a significant competitor in the area. Dr. McMullen also shared the need to improve the scope of offerings in the summer, possibly under a modified schedule. The Evening program is also addressing the need to move to the increased credit hour standard (200 qtr. Hours) recently established by SACS.

Dr. McMullen also offered for consideration and reflection a degree completion program for Evening students, especially in light of the likelihood that West Georgia Technical College will soon become a SACS accredited institution.

Miscellaneous

The Accreditation team for the Professional Standards Committee will meet this Saturday, October 8, through Wednesday, October 12.

Likely topics for the November 21st meeting

Albany and Graduate Programs
Enrollment and Budget
Convocation Challenge
Benchmark Institutions

Respectfully submitted,

R. K. Boozer