

Provost's Council
February 18, 2015
2:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Regents' Room, MB 3.106

AGENDA

QEP PROGRESS TESTING FOR 5TH YEAR INTERIM REPORT

Dr. Nancy Martin, Associate Vice Provost for Core Curriculum and the QEP, and Dr. Dan Sass, Associate Professor in the Department of Management Science and Statistics, met with the Council members to review an email her office is planning to send to the Deans to request assistance from faculty to assess the impact of the QLP. The QLP team has developed a QLAT, which is a 20 question test designed to measure quantitative literacy. The test will take approximately 30 minutes to administer. Dr. Martin and Dr. Sass reviewed the current list of courses that are designated Q-courses and have selected 3 – 5 per college to test. Dr. Martin and Dr. Sass already provided a draft of an email that the Deans can send to the instructors. The Deans were agreeable to this request, but also expressed their concerns about the timing of the request as faculty have already developed their syllabi and schedules for projects and exams. Dr. Martin stated that she understood their concerns, but that this is an important element to UTSA's 5th year interim report that is due in 2016. Dr. Martin and Dr. Sass received approval to move forward with the QLAT test.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Dr. Frederick, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, distributed a copy of the "UTSA Tier One Blueprint 2020" strategic plan and the phase one (assess and benchmark) template report to the Council members for their review and to assist with the discussion. Dr. Frederick reviewed all of the pillars and provided the names of the vice presidents who are overseeing the pillars along with the names of the pillar strategy leaders. They are:

Educational Excellence – VP's: John Frederick and Sam Gonzales; Strategy Leaders: Lisa Blazer and Dan Gelo

Superior Infrastructure—VP's: John Frederick, Sam Gonzales, Mauli Agrawal and Jude Valdez; Strategy Leaders: Mickey Stevenson and Lenora Chapman

Innovative Research and Discovery—VP's: John Frederick, Sam Gonzales, Mauli Agrawal and Jude Valdez; Strategy Leaders: Bernard Arulanandam and Hazem Rashed-Ali

Strong Community Involvement—VP's: Marjie French, Mauli Agrawal and Jude Valdez; Strategy Leader: Bob McKinley

Superior Student Experience—VP's: John Frederick and Sam Gonzales; Strategy Leaders: Kevin Price and Tammy Wyatt

World-Class Graduate Programs—VP's: Marjie French, Mauli Agrawal and Jude Valdez; Strategy Leader: Floyd Wormley

Dr. Frederick mentioned that the current strategic plan process will build on the foundation from the Team 2016 strategic plan. Each pillar contains sub-categories which will have their own leaders and include groups of faculty and staff. The plan will consist of five phases that build on one another. Phase One will consist of a SWOT analysis and benchmarks. Once the groups complete that process they will develop recommendations that will be presented to the pillar leaders who will, in turn, present the findings to Dr. Romo and the CMO at the end of March. After all of the summaries have been reviewed, the groups will move into Phase Two, which consists of developing strategies and metrics. Phase Three of the process integrates all of the plans into one cohesive plan. Phase Four finalizes the new strategic plan and Phase Five is the official launch of the new plan.

Dr. Frederick reiterated that each sub-group will contain faculty and staff from each vice presidential area and the pillar strategy leaders are currently working on developing those groups. He also mentioned that as we go along with this process there may be a need to add to the list of the sub-topics under each pillar. The strategy leaders should present additional topics to their vice president. Also, while there were concerns expressed by the Council members on collaboration and input, he stressed that some of the pillar leaders are from academic affairs and the strategies/sub-topics are either led by faculty and staff from academic affairs or they are members of the sub-groups. So, there shouldn't be any cause for concern, as developing the new strategic plan will be a collaborative effort.

Dr. Frederick stated that as each group begins Phase One of the strategic plan, that they consider the following:

- What kind of institution do we want UTSA to be? What does Tier One mean for UTSA, for San Antonio? He stated that strategic planning is more than just saying we want to be like XX University. He provided the example from when we were developing our aspirant universities during the last strategic planning process and a university was included among the list that did not have a business school. There were other aspects about that university which made it appealing to UTSA, but caused concern among the faculty and staff in our own College of Business.
- When possible, he suggested that the groups refer to the Graduation Rate Improvement Plan as it contains a lot of historical data and would be a great resource for assessment and benchmarking.
- As the groups begin looking at benchmarks, Dr. Frederick suggested that we look at our aspirants that are public, urban universities without a medical school. We should select universities that are a little ahead of us for short-term and long-term goals that we want to include in the strategic plan.

Dr. Frederick stated that Dr. Romo will be conducting forums with various groups across campus to present the strategic plan and to seek their input.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Great Conversation:

Tuesday, Feb. 24th; 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

ITC; Tickets available on Great

Conversation website:

<http://www.utsa.edu/greatconversation/>

Next Provost's Council Meeting:

Wednesday, March 18th; 3:00 – 5:00;

Regents' Room

Commencement Ceremonies May 9th and 10th: Alamodome

Reminder: Faculty Summer Insurance Deductions—please make sure you're faculty are aware of this information:

As you may remember from last year's communication, benefits eligible faculty paid over 9 months will have insurance premiums for this summer **doubled deducted** in the April 1, May 1 and June 1st paychecks. Benefits eligible faculty on a salary spread paid 12 months will not be impacted. The insurance premiums are deducted from the monthly paycheck.

However, if there is a change in employment or family status, premiums may be affected. HR Benefits & Payroll offices will coordinate any adjustments, if applicable. For example, if a faculty member separates from UTSA May 31, 2015, he/she is not eligible for summer insurance; the premiums will be reimbursed and COBRA will be offered.

If you have any questions about your insurance coverage, please contact HR Benefits at 458.4250 or benefits@utsa.edu.