

Task Force on Global Education
February 14th, 2008

Minutes:

Present: President John Haeger, Provost Elizabeth Grobsmith, Vice-Provost Harvey Charles, Rick Brandel, Tom DeStefano, Ramona Mellott, David Schlosberg, Sara Sullivan, Jeanne Olson, Eck Doerry, Kathleen Smalldon, Blase Scarnati, Susan Johnstad, Karen Plager, Joe Anderson, Michael Vincent, Todd Sullivan, Otto Hansen, Mary Lane-Kelso, Shelly Silbert

Absent: Pete Fulé, Mayor Joe Donaldson

The meeting began when Provost Elizabeth Grobsmith welcomed the new Task Force for Global Education. She mentioned that the group has lot of good work to be done. She asked that each member of the group introduce themselves. The members present and their departments are as follows:

Otto Hansen: ASNAU, Multicultural Affairs Director

Todd Sullivan: Academic Chairs Council, Director of the School of Music

Michael Vincent: Dean, College of Arts and Letters

Karen Plager: Faculty, Nursing Department, College of Health and Human Services

Joe Anderson: Faculty, W.A. Franke College of Business

Susan Johnstad: Distance Learning

Blase Scarnati: President of the Faculty Senate, Faculty in the School of Music

Kathleen Smalldon: Cline Library

Jeanne Olson: Administration and Finance, Office of the Bursar

Sara Sullivan: Center for International Education

David Schlosberg: Chair, Political Science, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Ramon Mellott: Graduate College

Tom DeStefano: Faculty, College of Education

Rick Brandel: Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, Dean of Students

Harvey Charles: Vice-Provost, Center for International Education

Shelley Silbert: Advancement

Eck Doerry: Chair, Computer Science, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences

Mary Lane-Kelso: Academic Council on Diversity and Equity

After the introductions, President John Haeger addressed the group. He said that internationalization is a key dimension of a university. He also related his some of his own international background, having studied in Rome as a sophomore and later teaching in Scotland. The issues that universities face today are different than when he went overseas. The 21st century campus needs to reflect a world culture. NAU began its initiatives to bring more international students to campus when it began working with Chinese universities, but now we must implement a broader vision. People often think of international experience in terms of studying abroad, but there are many other ways to bring international experiences to campus. Americans travel internationally much less

than other western countries. One reason is expense, but there are ways to make these international experiences more cost effective. Another important aspect of internationalization is with faculty and staff. We should also work towards giving staff and faculty international opportunities. Internationalization is a part of diversity.

In the universities of the future, there will be an international scramble for the best students and faculty members. NAU will need to target these international markets. During President Haeger's first visit to China, he went to a recruitment fair put on by a Chinese university. Every country was represented at this fair by booths and many countries had multiple booths. The United States had only one small booth to represent the entire country. President Haeger saw this as arrogant.

President Haeger then went on to say that he is delighted that all the members of the task force are willing to serve, and he hopes that they will find innovative ways to change the campus. He also said to the group to not let budget constraints deter the group from doing its task.

Karen Plager then mentioned a U.S. Senate bill that sets up a foundation to send one million U.S. students to study abroad each year within the next ten years. President Haeger went on to say that one of the biggest things that deter students from studying abroad is lack of foreign language capabilities. The State Board of Education recently approved a mandatory math requirement for all high schools, but did not approve a mandatory foreign language requirement. Arizona has an old philosophy that comprises of two curriculums. Wealthier districts have a foreign language requirement, poorer districts do not. This philosophy is changing, but it will take time.

After President Haeger's comments, Provost Elizabeth Grobsmith addressed the group. She said that it is nice to look around and see so many people passionate about internationalization. The reason that each member was chosen was because they are going to be an agent of change. Her role is to empower the group. She feels strongly about the issue of internationalization and wants to empower the group to take risks and make recommendations for change. She hopes that these recommendations are transformative and not just tweaks to current policies. A good goal is to increase the number of international students on campus, but it is not enough. She asked the group what an internationalized campus looks like. She then spoke of her daughter. When her daughter was in high school, she went on an exchange program to Russia. When her daughter was in college, she studied abroad in both Spain and Chile. These study abroad experiences increased her language skills and in turn increased her job opportunities after graduation. These experiences were transformative experiences.

She then went on to say that the first order of business for the task force is to do a university wide audit on internationalization. Right now international efforts are happening, but are happening without cohesion. We need to have a deliberate strategy. We need to transform the curriculum. It is essential. We will need to look at the liberal studies requirements. Provost Grobsmith then showed the group a handbook about advancing internationalization that included case studies. She said that when it comes to

the curriculum, we need to look at what we hope the outcome will be and work backwards. Right now we have one course to help students become globally competent. It is not enough. We know that if students have more than 120 credits, the university gets docked, so we need to imbed these requirements into the existing programs. She asked the group to take risks and to feel free to ask other people with expertise to participate in committee discussions. She suggested an idea of feedback. Perhaps we can create a freshman survey asking students if they feel comfortable in a global environment. Then have these same students complete a similar survey when they are seniors. She also mentioned that study abroad is on the rebound, and we need to think of studying abroad in terms of the student's experience. We can also make these experiences financially feasible by creating more exchange programs. In these programs, students pay their regular NAU tuition rate. There is also a fundraising element. We can perhaps create an external advisory board to tap resources. She mentioned that we can include the Center for International Education into NAU's Annual Letter to increase gift giving. She also mentioned that we have members on this task force from many different departments so that this internationalization effort can be campus wide. She asked the group again how to create an internationalized campus. We need to not do what we have always done. She then said that she hopes the group will embrace their role as members of the task force and to make recommendations that help transform the campus.

The group decided that the handbooks on internationalization will be helpful, and Provost Grobsmith said that she will order enough for the group. She also reiterated to the group to invite others with specific expertise to future meetings.

After Provost Grobsmith spoke, Vice Provost Harvey Charles gave a presentation on his vision of the task force. He began by saying that since he accepted the position at NAU, he has noticed two things. First, he has been encouraged by the level of support for internationalization by senior administrators. He said that the task force supports the commitment that currently exists in the NAU Strategic Plan. Second, he has noticed the amount of commitment towards internationalization by the faculty. He also mentioned that everyone works in their own area and may not be aware of all the work that is going on across campus towards internationalization. We need to make these efforts public and allow them to be a distinct feature of the institution. He believes that the work of the task force can be embraced by the campus without too much of a fight because so many are already committed to this cause. He then started his power point presentation.

After the presentation, the items to discuss were to elect a faculty chair of the task force, establish subcommittees, and to determine the next meeting time. Harvey said that he doesn't anticipate that the entire group needs to meet on a regular basis, perhaps three more times before the end of the semester. The bulk of the work will be done in the subcommittees. The group then set out to elect a faculty chair of the task force. Ramona Mellott nominated Tom DeStefano and David Scholsberg. David declined because of time commitments and the group decided that Tom DeStefano would be the faculty chair of the task force. Joe Anderson then asked that the presentation be emailed out to the group. Harvey then said that he would like the subcommittees to be up and running as soon as possible. He recommends that the curriculum subcommittee lead the campus

wide audit. Karen Plager then asked for Harvey to reiterate the five committees. They are as follows:

1. Curriculum Subcommittee
2. Faculty Subcommittee
3. Student Development Subcommittee
4. Infrastructure/Development Subcommittee
5. Community Engagement

Through a volunteer process, the subcommittee members are as follows:

Curriculum Subcommittee:

Michael Vincent
Ramona Mellott
Blase Scarnati
Eck Doerry
Susan Johnstad
Harvey Charles

Faculty Subcommittee

David Schlosberg
Karen Plager
Pete Fulé
Eck Doerry
Harvey Charles

Student Development Subcommittee

Joe Anderson
Tom DeStefano
Otto Hansen
Rick Brandel
Susan Johnstad
Jeanne Olson
Harvey Charles

Infrastructure/Development Subcommittee

Shelley Silbert
Mary Lane-Kelso
Kathleen Smalldon
Harvey Charles

Community Engagement Subcommittee

Michael Vincent
Todd Sullivan
Jeane Olson
Susan Johnstad
Mayor Joe Donaldson
Harvey Charles

Harvey mentioned that each subcommittee will identify a chair of the committee. It was also decided that the next meeting with all members will be March 27th at 8:30 a.m. These meeting will most likely be 90 minutes and the location of the meeting will be communicated beforehand. Harvey will communicate with subcommittee members soon and he hopes to have the audit completed within six weeks. He also mentioned that as faculty chair of the task force, Tom is not required to attend all subcommittee meetings.

Harvey then said that he looks forward to working with everyone. He hopes that the group can get a list of recommendations together by the end of the year.