

Provost's Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

Meeting Notes 4.28.22

- A. Committee members had discussion on the divisional structure description in the college's by-laws in Sections IX and X. It was recommended that the committee contact Dale Billingsley due to the historical knowledge he would have of how the division model worked in the past at A&S.
- B. Committee members watched [PBS News Hour: Opening the Doorsto More Low-Income Students Reshapes University video clip](#) and had a discussion on strategies that ASU and Georgia State utilize to increase student recruitment and retention. They discussed the state performance funding model, earned credit hours and the need to fix when and how "incompletes" are counted, student utilization of university resources and support services, and the benefit of meeting students where they are.
- C. A committee member expressed the need to look at departments that are significantly underperforming and perhaps combine those departments. They asserted that some departments should be independent, but not others and there should be discussion on which ones should be joined.
- D. A committee member cautioned that any model that makes decisions on a department's performance should include multiple measurements, not just their credit hour production. They caution that programs like Black studies are often the first to get eliminated in rapid restructurings.
- E. A committee member suggested that perhaps Pan-African studies could be made part of the Cardinal Core and that the university reassess which courses meet the requirement for diversity education.
- F. A committee member said we should think about how ASU's reorganization was university-wide and how that should make the university consider a restructuring that is larger than just A&S.
- G. A committee member reminded the group that we are an urban university, and we are focused on first-generation students.
- H. A committee member urged the committee to think about what makes the college distinctive and who we want to be, and then restructure or plan around that. The college doesn't have a strong vision of who it wants to be. When restructuring is only discussed in economic terms, departments like Black studies will always lose out due to budget priorities winning over ideological priorities. They urged the committee to maintain ideological priorities.
- I. The provost concluded the meeting with an announcement that there will be no meeting next week. In the following week, the provost will share a review of the themes that have emerged from all the meetings thus far. He will reach out to the ASU dean of Arts & Sciences to see if they'd be willing to talk to the committee at a future meeting and discuss their questions.