

Self-Study Steering Committee Meeting
February 26, 2010
1:00 pm

Attendees:

Wanda McConnaughay, Joanna Fulbright, Joan Stirling, Holly Ayers, Jeremy Nicholson, Bettie Estes, Scott Pinkston, Chaney Coleman, John Petersen, Michael Orf, Deltha Shell, Nancy Dust, Suellen Davidson, Judy Sharp, Sandra Miller, Tracy Cone, Mary Ellen Hawkins, Rodney Williams, Ron Helm, Kim Whitten, Karla Rush, Kim Lovelace, Tina Wheelis

Absent:

Ruby Johnson, Judy Cannady

Joan opened the meeting and invited Dr. Dawe to offer his remarks.

Dr. Dawe noted that he was pleased with the condition of the Criterion 1 and 2 and will be reading 3 and 4 over the weekend. He stated that we are learning a great deal as we go through this review. We are identifying our strengths and areas that need more work.

Criterion 1 Discussion

Joan opened a discussion of Criterion 1 to identify any strengths or challenges that have been identified or overlooked.

Rodney Williams stated that the material was a good checklist of administrative criterion but could incorporate a little more humanity into it. Jeremy Nicholson reminded everyone that after the text is edited, blurbs similar to the student testimonials from the website and pictures will be included with the chapter.

Karla Rush stated that she thinks that Criterion 1 is a strength of Ozarka College overall and sets a tone for the other criterion.

Other things noted were changes in words (disestablished) and possibly unclear statements regarding the tobacco policy implementation.

Dr. Dawe noted that we want to be truthful and accurate in what we present and we should keep the identified challenges in perspective.

Jeremy reminded everyone that we are aiming for an objective voice in the report.

There needs to be clarification of the Sick Leave sell back policy on page 94, paragraph 3. Tina Wheelis will rework this paragraph and submit it to Joan.

Strengths Discussion

Suggested edits:

1. Change word prescribe – foster, support, encourage
2. Racial and ethnic (is it the same), education to learning
3. Remove the word "and" before with integrity in statement 3.

Dr. Dawe asked everyone to focus on what makes us unique.

Statement 3 generated much discussion and it was decided that Joan and Joanna would work on Strength 3 and send it back out for review.

Other thoughts concerning strengths for Ozarka College were:

- Comparative high level of transparency
- Institution has integrity
- Agile
- Responsive
- Cooperative
- Supportive

Challenges Discussion

The Administration is now publishing weekly minutes of the Administrative Council meeting

Off-site locations are not able to participate as often due to logistics

Communication with off-site staff and students is less effective

Could have a semi-structured conversation about ways to improve communication (round-table discussion)

1. Long range planning has been missing from the planning strategy

Criterion 2 Discussion

Joan opened a discussion of Criterion 2 to identify any strengths or challenges that have been identified or overlooked.

There was discussion about Criterion 2.

Suggested edits included:

P 66 – have chart for each site

Emphasize the rate of growth

P 78 – discusses site growth

Michael Orf asked a question about the Introduction. Have we realistically prepared for the future? He asked for explanation of how we could "realistically" prepare with budget cuts. There was discussion to answer Michael's question.

Michael also asked for 2b3 to be defined. Joan answered that it means do we use people effectively? Michael noted that the write-up is about pay and should include structure and how the employees are used to serve the students, college and community.

The committee will meet again on Friday, March 5 at 1:00 pm to continue discussion of Criterion 2 and start Criterion 3.

Submitted by Nancy Dust