Strategic Planning Steering Committee meeting  
Friday, May 1, 2009  
7:30 – 9:00 a.m., Plaza Room, Administrative Center

Attending: Chrisanne Arnold, Jennifer DeHaemers, Bonnie Postlethwaite, Peter Witte, Steve Driever, Lisen Tammeus, Lawrence Dreyfus, Walt Rychlewski, Jeff Rydberg-Cox, Cindy Pemberton, Bob Simmons, Walter Clements, Hugh Zimmer, Mary Lou Hines, Nancy Murdock, Troy Lillebo, Sarah Morris, Tom Poe, Mel Tyler, John Purk, Michael Strait, Leo Morton, Kevin Truman, Larry Bunce, Patricia Marken, Jeff Thomas, Gary Ebersole, Gail Hackett, Juno Friedman

Absent: Adam Brown, Karen Dace, Bridgett Johnson, Meghann Martens, John Readey, Jim Sheppard, Thad Wilson, Steve Stroud, Joy Swallow, Maria Meyers, Mary Pat Henry, Sandy Gault, Mark Allen

Handouts: Agenda with Timeline, Major Feedback Themes, List of Feedback sessions

Provost Hackett thanked the subcommittee chairs for showing up at the Town Halls and other meetings to help her with the presentations.

Discussion on Feedback

The feedback was different across meetings, with very few points being brought up more than once or twice. The external sessions were very helpful for entrepreneurship and workforce issues. There was disappointment that the turnout at the meetings was not greater, but there was a sense that participation internally was growing.

After discussion by Jeff Thomas, from the Law School, it was decided that a clearly defined strategy is needed to coordinate the alignment of the unit plans with the strategic plan. Planning committees in each academic unit could be charged to bring each school into alignment with each goal of the strategic plan.

Feedback from all meetings that was mentioned more than twice:

Goal 1: Place Student Success at the Center
   - Emphasize the vibrant campus life component of the mission
   - Ensure that the focus on undergraduate enrollment and education does not disenfranchise graduate students.

Goal 2: Lead in Life and Health Sciences
   - Consider including external partners in the Research Advisory Council
   - Identify key strategic partnerships that UMKC will pursue
   - Include objectives or strategies which emphasize UMKC’s role in educating practitioners – expand to include community health
   - Fit in sustainability, geosciences, environmental research here or in Urban goal
   - Focus on the big picture, the objectives are too tactical
   - Carve out UMKC’s role in clinical and translational research

Goal 3: Advance Urban Research and Engagement
   - Need to stay focused on the needs of Kansas City or explain how national/international partnerships benefit Kansas City
   - Focus on the big picture, the objectives are too tactical
   - Must identify UMKC’s role in the metro area (what it is and what it is NOT)

Goal 4: Excel in the Visual and Performing Arts – no consistent feedback themes
Goal 5: Embrace Diversity
- Need to pick a different word that “safe” in the goal statement, seems to focus too much on physical safety
- Ensure that the efforts are not window dressing
- Find ways to make the committee accountable, no need for another ineffectual committee

Goal 6: Promote Research and Economic Development
- Need to include a strong statement about UMKC’s strengths in educating entrepreneurs
- Should focus more on workforce development specific to Kansas City’s industries
- Need to be careful not to give the impression that we’re only focusing on grant-funded research. Include all forms of research, discovery and artistic creation
- Should utilize the strengths UMKC has in developing businesses and non-profit organizations

General Comments:
- UMKC needs to do a better job publicizing its strengths
- Make sure this plan does not sit on the shelf, keep revisiting and update campus on progress
- Need to ensure the proper infrastructure is in place to carry out the plan (staffing, finances, facilities, etc.)

Timeline
Summer 2009
- Gail/Leo will meet with various members of the KC community to share the draft
- Writing team works on a final draft before the fall semester – including meeting with as many members of the subcommittees as possible to incorporate their input

Fall, 2009
- Writing team will meet with each subcommittee to present the second draft for feedback/revisions
- Reconvene the steering committee to finalize the plan – August
- Schools and units begin the process of aligning their planning with the strategic plan
- Outline a communications plan for the final version
- Create implementation teams in August/September to plan specific initiatives; including relevant members of the subcommittees and well as other appropriate faculty, staff, students, and external constituents.