

**Minutes from the A&S Strategic Planning Committee Meeting**  
September 23, 2022  
Twamley Hall 304

**Present:**

Nicole Derenne  
Greg Vandeberg  
Matthew Flom  
Christopher Gable  
Michele Iams  
Thyra Knapp  
Laine Lyons  
Katie Meyer  
Sarah Robinson  
Becky Simmons  
Jeff Weatherly  
Jessica Zerr  
Becky Simmons  
Karyn Vasek

**Meeting called to order at 2:10 p.m.**

**Update:**

The committee will work with Tracy Backstrom on the Strategic Planning Website to keep the community informed and provide opportunities for regular feedback; site should be up next week.

**Discussion of abbreviated/working version of the A&S Mission Statement:**

*The College of Arts & Sciences equips future citizens and leaders with the skills they need to be strategic thinkers, effective communicators, innovative decision-makers and life-long learners. In addition to demonstrating excellence in teaching, college faculty are active scholars and creative artists who advance knowledge and imagination throughout the region. The college fosters the creative, ethical, and intellectual development and capabilities of its students through its programs in fine arts, humanities, math & science, social sciences, and high-impact interdisciplinary programs.*

- Good starting point—shorter and more accessible than the current mission statement—but need to think about the flow of ideas.
- Will want to take new UND mission into consideration when drafting ours but focus on what sets A&S apart from other units on campus.

**Discussion of DEI and Taskforce on Future of Education at UND Reports:**

- Our mission and value statements should come from a specific viewpoint; avoid generalities
- Vision statement can be broader in scope but the mission should be specific

- Previous recommendations had a timeline but not much follow-through; new plan should be more open-ended but with a clear improvement plan
- Previous plan contained language that wasn't inclusive; must do better this time
- Always argued that DEI should be a pillar of its own, but, in reality, it should be included in every single thing we do; How do we ensure DEI isn't a "check-box" thing? Must have an ever-evolving improvement plan and maintain it

### **General Discussion**

- Would be good if this process could inspire a cultural shift to identify as part of the College of Arts & Sciences
- How can we identify metrics that allow the plan to evolve/adaptable goals? Can we engage people across the College to work collectively on the goal objectives? Is there a standing committee that keeps track of progress?
- Unclear how effective the current strategic plan has been (impact of COVID)
- Some factors we want to address may not have a quantitative value; How do we measure things like college climate?
- What about resource (time, money, people) allocation?
- What are our deliverables? Mission, vision, values, goals objectives—then an implementation plan that can measure success
- What about an assessment plan?

### **Stakeholders and Listening Sessions:**

- We want to talk to undergraduates, graduate students, faculty and staff from the four divisions of the College
- A&S Advisory Board meets next Friday; let's see if we can speak to them about taking part in the process
- Should we have a spreadsheet of groups, timeline on the shared drive? A document where we can all contribute questions and ideas? Becky will put this up over the weekend.
- What about incoming students and their families? Students who are at a distance? Student ambassadors? Graduate students? Should provide food at listening sessions to attract student participation

### **Matters Arising:**

- Resources on the shared drive need to be reorganized so that they're easier to digest. Maybe we assign specific documents to committee members for future homework discussion. Becky will organize folders in shared drive for easier access
- We will look at dashboards available through Analytics and Planning at future meetings
- Committee will meet every two weeks (Perhaps in a different room so that we can start on time?)

**Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.**