



ETSU 125

Progressing toward ETSU's 125th Anniversary

Academics Task Force Meeting

Date: October 30, 2012

Time: 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Location: President's Conference Room, Burgin Dossett Hall

Attendees: Kelly Atkins, Bert Bach, Steve Barnett, Alison Barton, Dan Brown, Daryl Carter, Michele Crumley, Anita DeAngelis, Alan Forsman, Roy Ikenberry (via live stream), Karen King, William Kirkwood, Karen Kornweibel, Zach McCamey, Celia McIntosh, and Patricia Van Zandt

Guests: Terry Countermine

MINUTES

I. Welcome

Dr. Kirkwood provided an agenda and thanked everyone for attending.

II. Approve Minutes of October 16, 2012

The minutes were approved as distributed with a request that the initial definitions of success discussed during the first part of the meeting be included. If they are available, Ms. Blevins will include them.

III. Review Cluster Themes

Dr. Kirkwood noted that the minutes from 10.16.12 included ideas presented during the meeting as well as ideas members of the task force emailed him following the meeting and ideas discussed by the Committee for 125. As agreed at the meeting of 10.16, the committee engaged in a virtual screening of the initial list of ideas by means of a Zoomerang survey. Members put each idea in one of three categories: Refer, Study Now, or Defer Study. Dr. Kirkwood emailed the results to the members, and he used the resulting list of ideas which many members thought we should study now to identify clusters of ideas and associated priority themes. He put these on the screen so that all members could review them. The themes were:

- Advisement
- Arts and integration with other disciplines
- Graduate studies
- All curricula
- ETSU will be recognized as the university of choice for undergraduate education characterized by consistently excellent, reaching across all disciplines, numerous opportunities for engagement and enrichment, mastery of vital learning outcomes by virtually all students, and strong graduation rates.
- Faculty roles and responsibilities, including advisement
- ETSU will be nationally recognized for the quality of its online courses and programs and for its success in using educational technology to make college more affordable.
- Libraries



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Dr. Kirkwood added the last theme based on a request from Ms. Van Zandt that Libraries be a stand-alone theme. The task force agreed to refer an idea related to this theme—creating an archive of ETSU—to the Culture and Outreach Task Force, chaired by Dr. Nancy Dishner.

Dr. Kirkwood noted that he had taken the liberty of working with other task force members to write draft vision statements (subject to revision by the full task force) for two of the priorities to illustrate the kinds of statements needed for the others.

IV. Make Investigative Team Assignments

Prior to today's meeting Dr. Kirkwood sent the list of cluster themes to task force members and asked them to indicate three to four priorities they would most like to study. Using that information Dr. Kirkwood assigned two members to each cluster theme, as follows:

Theme	Investigators
Arts and integration with other disciplines	Atkins, DeAngelis
Graduate studies	Barnett, McIntosh
All curricula	Crumley, Kornweibel
ETSU will be recognized as the university of choice for undergraduate education . . .	Barton, Countermine
Faculty roles and responsibilities, including advisement	Brown, Carter
ETSU will be nationally recognized for the quality of its online courses . . .	Forsman, King
Libraries	McCamey, Van Zandt

Dr. Ikenberry will serve as a consultant to all of the teams.

V. Discuss Investigative Team Charge, Tasks, and Timeline

Dr. Kirkwood distributed a charge, timeline, and tasks to the teams. He emphasized that they should consider themselves “investigators” rather than advocates for their themes. Each team should conduct research on its themes to help both the task force and the university determine which themes should become major ETSU priorities for the next five to 25 years. This research is especially important because our task force will not be able to advance every theme as a priority, even if all of them have merit. Dr. Kirkwood reminded team members that they have two resources from which to draw information—the ETSU 125 website (www.etsu.edu/125/) and the Education Advisory Board repository of custom reports (www.eab.com).

VI. Begin Work in Investigative Teams

Dr. Kirkwood asked the teams to perform four tasks, on which they would report to the larger task force near the end of the meeting.



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A. Write a vision statement for the theme

Each team should write a vision statement for its theme. Dr. Kirkwood had provided two examples of vision statements to illustrate what was needed. He emphasized that the statement of the priority should be aspirational, express a goal, and require a “stretch.”

B. Identify key ideas or recommendations related to the theme

Each team should identify ideas or recommendations it wants the task force to consider sending to the Committee for 125. Dr. Kirkwood noted that teams should review the ideas presented in the minutes of 10.16.12, decide which, if any, of them to study, and explore other ideas if it wishes. Teams were encouraged to prune their key ideas prior to bringing them to the task force.

C. Write research questions

Each team should start writing research questions it will investigate.

D. Agree on Meeting Times for the Team

Each investigative team was to determine its meeting times.

VII. Hear Reports from Investigative Teams

Each team then reported on its initial draft vision statement and any ideas or recommendations it plans to investigate.

VIII. Closing Remarks

Following the review, Dr. Kirkwood asked team leaders to email him by this Friday (the 2nd) and provide a brief update on the team's work. Teams should bring summaries of their research to date and a refined version of the vision statement for their priority to the next meeting of the task force on November 6th.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim S. Blevins
Office Manager