**ETSU 125**

**Academics: Programs and Opportunities Task Force**

Tuesday, November 6, 2012

3:30-5:30 PM

President’s conference room, Dossett Hall

**MINUTES**

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

Absent: Roy Ikenberry

1. **Approve minutes of October 30, 2012**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of October 30, 2012. The minutes were amended to reflect disposition of three recommendations: 1) creating an archive of ETSU was referred to the culture and outreach task force, chaired by Dr. Nancy Dishner; 2) supporting students with disabilities and other students with special needs forwarded to the task force looking at student services and student life; and 3) changing the university’s name was referred to Jeremy Ross for immediate consideration by the president. With these changes, the motion carried.

1. **Receive update from conference call with Napa consultants, 11.2.12**
	1. **This is a visioning, not an operational planning, process**

Dr. Kirkwood reported that Dr. Bach and he participated in a conference call last week with the consultants. Each task force chair summarized what they were doing. He emphasized that our task force is engaged in a “visioning” process and not a planning process. Members are not obligated to deal with the operational components of ideas brought forward. It is the job of this group to recommend major priorities for the next five to 25 years and to propose significant actions that will help the university pursue these priorities, if adopted.

* 1. **Each task force will present approximately (<) five priorities—we will have to select a vital few.**

Each task force will present three to five priorities. Dr. Kirkwood emphasized that priorities and accompanying documentation not submitted to the Committee for 125 will be archived for later consideration.

* 1. **The consultants like having each priority expressed as a vision statement.**
	2. **We will write ONE narrative report of 3-4 pages outlining the process, including research, by which we selected priorities.**

The required narrative is one document rather than one for each idea recommended. This narrative will describe the process used by the task force to identify, review and select priorities.

* 1. **We will submit ONE template on which all priorities and specific recommendations will appear, along with documentation of research.**

As with the narrative, the task force will submit only one template and not one template per idea.

* 1. **The larger university will participate in review of recommendations in the spring by means yet to be determined.**

The Committee for 125 will determine mechanisms by which the larger community participates in the visioning process in spring 2013.

1. **Receive updates from investigative teams**

Each team read their vision statement, provided key ideas/recommendations, and indicated research underway [outlined in table below]. Task force members were given the opportunity to provide feedback.

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| **Themes, Vision Statements and Ideas** |
| **Arts & integration with other disciplines** |
| **Vision:**ETSU will become a showcase for distinguished programs in the arts by providing dynamic facilities, learning opportunities, and experiences for students and audiences throughout the Southeast.**Ideas:** 1. Facilities development, planning, organization, programs, budget (What kind of organizational structure is needed to support the new performing arts center?)
2. Arts curriculum, teaching, faculty development, resources (What curriculum changes are recommended to address student/alumni employment and workforce needs for today and in the future?)
3. Economic impact and workforce development (How does facility programming impact the local economy?)
4. Integration, collaboration, engagement (What ETSU programs are most viable for collaboration with the arts?)
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| **Graduate studies** |
| **Vision**:ETSU will have a global reputation for rigorous, high quality, cutting edge, accessible graduate education including integrated interdisciplinary programs, outstanding training and mentoring, and noteworthy opportunities for networking and professional community building.**Ideas:**1. Related to “cutting edge, interdisciplinary, integrated programs . . . ," possible ideas include:
	1. Informatics/analytics
	2. M.S. Interdisciplinary science
	3. Masters or doctoral degrees in Interdisciplinary studies (at least 2 fields, not restricted to humanities), capstone/thesis/dissertation must integrate the disciplines
	4. Renewable energy, Green studies, policy development and implementation
	5. STEM and Art integrated programs
2. Related to “accessible, training and mentoring, culture, networking and professional community building . . . ,”the main idea is to foster these processes, award competitive stipends, and recruit the brightest and best to ETSU (“global reputation….”).
3. Expedited calendar for program approval to provide nimbleness in meeting educational needs.
4. Regarding the Committee for 125’s suggestion that ETSU doffer a doctor of business administration, Celia has asked Linda Garceau to provide research.
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| **All curricula** |
| **Vision:**ETSU will be nationally and internationally recognized for its innovative and interdisciplinary curricula and for its integration of international programs and experiences at the undergraduate and graduate level.**Ideas:**1. Developing a program in sustainable/green engineering that builds on regional strengths, projected societal needs, and ETSU strengths.
2. Engaging in a process of curricular integration of study abroad (and perhaps national exchange and internship programs) and setting a goal of having 30% of ETSU students spend a semester offsite by the end of 25 years. Details/benefits/etc. still being researched.
3. Implementing a cohort program of linked general education courses, especially during the first year, to transform general education into something exciting rather than rote, expand interdisciplinarity and improve retention.
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| **ETSU will be recognized as the university of choice in our region for undergraduate education characterized by consistently excellent teaching across all disciplines, numerous opportunities for engagement and enrichment, mastery of vital learning outcomes by virtually all students, and strong graduation rates.** |
| **Vision:**ETSU will be recognized as a university of choice that provides the opportunity for an excellent undergraduate education through a broad range of high quality programs and experiences.**Ideas:**1. Top university administrators should clearly and regularly convey the message that excellence in teaching is a top priority for ETSU.
2. Promote faculty involvement in learning how to become more effective teachers, recognizing that everyone may not use the same teaching style.
3. Promote students’ involvement in their education.
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| **Faculty roles and responsibilities, including advising and mentoring students** |
| **Vision:** ETSU will become known throughout the Southeastern U.S. for its student-centered approach to higher education.  By prizing and emphasizing student success, ETSU balances its research and teaching commitments with a primary focus for students through advisement and mentorship.**Ideas:** 1. What is advising?
2. What factors related to advising are relevant to student success?
3. What research supports using advising strategies to improve student success?
4. Incentive system at odds with consistent faculty advisor quality
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| **Libraries** |
| **Vision:**The library will be the physical and virtual center for academic achievement at ETSU, ranked highly in national polls and by library professional organizations for the quality of its staff, services and collections. Its funding will assure that teaching and research needs on campus are met, and its quality will help attract excellent faculty and students to ETSU.**Ideas:**1. Increase library resources budget to the median level of members of Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (or comparable Carnegie institutions or aspirational peers) in order to increase the quality of staff, collections and services
2. Make the library the central administrator of academic university publishing, including original research journals.
3. Ensure that all academic technology resources needed by students are available in the library, including hardware, software and support for users.
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| **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.** |
| **Vision:**ETSU online courses will be nationally/internationally recognized for quality and success in making college more affordable and intellectually engaging.**Ideas:**1. Offer free online open enrollment courses that would fit ETSU’s niche—not so much as M[assive]OOC’s as B[ig]OOC’s.
	1. Free online courses that would act as personal “check” courses for a student to determine if they are ready for college level courses.
	2. Free online courses that could be taken for credit or certificate. Upon successful completion the student could apply for the credit or certificate: for a fee.
2. Offer alternative scheduling.
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1. **Review next steps for meeting of November 13th**
	1. **Each investigative team should bring a one-page summary of research conducted on its priority, including the following:**
		1. a brief paragraph summarizing the team’s research process,
		2. information found (bulleted lists preferred), and
		3. a bibliography of sources, with urls where available
	2. **Task force will tentatively decide which recommendations we will present to the Committee for 125 on December 5th**.

Dr. Kirkwood asked that leaders send him their draft vision statements and related ideas with copies to Ms. Blevins. The task force will then begin consideration of refining which recommendations will go forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim S. Blevins

Office Manager

Office of the Provost and

 Vice President for Academic Affairs