

Minutes
Meeting with Dean Beck
COE Strategic Planning and COE Faculty Advisory Council Meeting
October 24, 2003
Texas State University – ASB South, Room 332

Members in Attendance:

Steve Awoniyi, Jennifer Battle, Brenda Beatty, Nathan Bond, Deborah Buswell, Marla McGhee, Sharon O’Neal, Alicia Paredes-Scribner, Bobby Patton, Jovita Ross-Gordon, Greg Soukup, Jo Webber

Members Absent:

Chris Brown, Marilyn Goodwin, Michelle Hamilton

Guests:

Dean Beck, CI Dept. Chair Marianne Reese, HPER Dept. Chair Bob Pankey, Senator Marguerite Gillis, Senator Steve Gordon, NCATE spokesperson Patrice Werner, NCATE Spokesperson Rich Radcliffe, Susan Field Waite, Emily Payne

Since the meeting was a work session for COE Strategic Planning with Dean Beck and other COE faculty, Robert’s Rules of Order were not followed.

Dean Beck began the meeting at 2:03 p.m.

I. Purpose of the Meeting

The FAC and other COE faculty members met with Dean Beck to continue the COE Strategic Planning. The purpose of the meeting was to sort through the strategic plans that the three departments in the College of Education had submitted. The faculty were asked to read the documents and identify the commonalities or themes that could be used in COE’s Strategic Plan.

Dean Beck provided some guidelines for the faculty members to follow as they analyzed the departments’ plans. The priorities that the members identified could be new ones as well as existing ones. An acceptable priority could be maintenance of existing programs. In addition, he stated that the university is expecting \$ 20 million in requests from the Colleges’ Plans for only \$ 6 million in actual dollars. Although some priorities may not be funded this year or next, they should still be placed on the list. The resources will come from budget reallocation and external funds. He also encouraged all participants to express their opinions about the priorities. FAC members in attendance wanted the Chairs’ and Dean’s voices to be heard in the process, too.

One participant asked which university-level priorities were driving the strategic planning process. In the past, the generation of SCHs played a large role in the university’s work. Dean Beck responded that President Trauth’s efforts to make Texas

State a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) and as well as a research institution were influencing the current process.

II. Analysis of the Departments' Plans

The participants divided into small groups and analyzed the departments' strategic plans during the next 45 minutes. The small groups were comprised of representatives from each department, with each group focusing on one particular area. These areas include:

1. Academic Programs – New / Changes
2. Academic Programs – Distance Education
3. Student Learning
4. Scholarly / Creative / Grants
5. Development
6. Diversity

III. Reports from the Small Groups

The groups shared the common themes that were identified in the three strategic plans.

1. **Academic Programs – New / Changes** - Linking back to the President Trauth's priority of diversity, the group stated that new programs should make efforts to better serve more diverse populations. A number of changes could be made to existing programs that would better address diverse populations. For example, ESL, Bilingual Education and Special Education were discussed in all three departments. Implementing Adapted PE in HPER was a more specific theme that emerged. Finally, development of the doctoral programs should continue.
2. **Academic Programs in Distance Education** – The two main emphases that emerged were to expand the capacity at the two centers in Round Rock and San Antonio and to expand ITV to locations beyond the IH-35 corridor. For example, HPER wants to add two courses to Distance Education and RRHEC. It was suggested that more specific goals from each department be included along with these major themes in the final report. Every department has the goal to offer courses at RRHEC and San Antonio.
3. **Student Learning** – The faculty working on this goal identified four major themes. First, the departments' strategic plans called for the development of a systematic way to collect data for the College. This tracking system would monitor students from admission to graduation or completion of their program, monitor certification passing rates, review and improve programs, assess and remediate students, and assist with the reviews of admissions policies. Second, the faculty wanted to create a program that will orient, induct and mentor new students, especially new graduate students. The program will also orient new

faculty, especially adjuncts. Third, a retention plan for minorities should be developed. Fourth, EAPS made a special request for a clinic coordinator.

Dean Beck responded that the university is currently taking steps to identify and hire high quality minority faculty. Once identified and approved by the personnel committees, the candidates will move more quickly through the hiring process. A process is currently being developed that will expedite the hiring of these new faculty members.

4. **Scholarship** – The group reported that all departments recognized the need for more scholarship in terms of publishing research articles and books, presenting at national conferences and serving as editors of scholarly journals. The ability to reach the goals depends on differentiated workloads, adjuncts and graduate assistants. In addition, grants and research clinics will provide some of the funds necessary to reach the goals. The issues of accountability and sequencing will need to be addressed in future discussions. Which will come first, the funding to undertake these endeavors or the production of the scholarly work?

Dean Beck stated that the issue of SCH has faded away because of the focus and beliefs of the new university president. She believes that workload issues can be addressed in a different manner. In addition, the student population at the university is growing and makes the issue of SCHs unnecessary. It was suggested by a participant that faculty pursue grant money to pay new faculty salaries.

5. **Development** – Several themes were identified in the departments' plans. For example, EAPS would like to establish Endowed Chairs, one in each area of their department. In addition, communication with the alumni should be enhanced. To generate more funds for faculty release time and travel, workshops and clinics could be established. Also, the College could work closely with corporations and foundations to secure more funding. A final theme was the creation of a Visiting Scholars Program, which would bring faculty to the College to teach and work with current Texas State faculty.

Dean Beck stated that Vickie Morris, the Development Officer for the College of Education, would spend more time in the future interfacing with the public. Specific professors who are involved with particular projects might be asked to accompany Vickie when she works directly with certain groups.

6. **Diversity** – The grouped identified five themes in the departments' plans, many of which dovetail with other themes that were already mentioned. First, a system needs to be created to track diverse students and their success. Second, specific programs should be developed, such as ESL and Bilingual courses. Third, specific efforts should be taken to increase student and staff diversity. Fourth, a Visiting Scholars Program would bring diverse faculty to campus. Fifth, a National Center for Mexican American Children's Education should be established. The center would seek grant funds for events such as Tomas Rivera Book Award.

IV. Future Actions

Dean Beck will now compile the group's work into a single document, integrate his own ideas, and then share the final draft with the faculty.

At the next meeting in two weeks, the group will focus more clearly on the resources needed to reach these priorities and strategies for obtaining resources. Although it may be too early to discuss the specific strategies that the College will follow, the group should begin thinking about these considerations in order to match budget requests to goals. For example, will the PPS need to be changed to accomplish the priorities?

FAC Chair Webber said that there will be a reading across all Colleges' Strategic Plans. The more specific the plans, the more likely that departments will develop plans that include our priorities. Currently, committees across campus are already forming to address some of these issues. The committees will scan the plans and identify common goals, which will be taken to the university level. Committees for each of the five areas have already been formed.

When Dean Beck sends the COE Strategic Plan to JCK, he will share the steps that the College of Education followed when creating its plan. In addition, he will share the ten ideas that the College generated. Chair Webber encouraged the Dean to include in his final report the particular priorities that are relevant to the individual departments, but not thematic across departments. The Dean will capture general themes as well as some specific themes that emerged from the departments' plans. The faculty will look at the list of priorities and then vote on them.

College of Education Priorities

1. Improve faculty support
2. Enhance research and scholarship
3. Increase diversity of students and faculty
4. Improve teaching and instructional quality
5. Development infrastructure for achievement of all goals
6. Expand and improve graduate programs
7. Develop a democratic community
8. Enhance internal and external recognition and visibility
9. Assess and improve programs
10. Expand academic program access

President Trauth's Priorities

1. Faculty salaries
 2. Search for a university provost
 3. Review of faculty and administrators
 4. Implement revised planning process
 5. Master planning
 6. Become a Hispanic Serving Institution (H.S.I.)
 7. Become a quasi-research institution
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The next FAC and COE Strategic Planning meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 7th in ASB South, Room 332 from 2 to 5 p.m. Dean Beck may run late since he will attend an SBEC meeting on that particular day. If so, FAC Chair Webber will facilitate the meeting.

The meeting ended at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Bond
FAC Secretary