Franklin College Faculty Senate

Committee on Planning and Evaluation

Recommendations

Excerpted from the Annual Report of the Committee on Planning and Evaluation for 2011

Committee members: Fred Dolezal, English; Christine Franklin, Statistics; Kelly Happe, Communication Studies; Jim Lauderdale, Cellular Biology; and Christopher Sieving, Theatre & Film Studies (chair)

In accordance with Section V of the Bylaws Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, the Committee on Planning and Evaluation has prepared this report to the Dean and Senate evaluating the College's success in achieving its goal and fulfilling the University's Strategic Plan.

Information in this report was drawn from sources including: 1) the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences Annual Report for 2011; 2) Building on Excellence, the University of Georgia 2010-2020 Strategic Plan; 3) Strategic Plan for the 21st Century, the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences strategic plan for 2000-2010; and 4) the University of Georgia Fact Book 2011.

Strategic Direction I: Building on Excellence in Undergraduate Education

Recommendation: As noted in the 2020 University Strategic Plan, over the last ten years the University of Georgia "has become increasingly dependent on part-time faculty to meet the instructional demands of its students." Franklin College should increase its efforts to make more teaching positions available to tenure-track faculty, rather than to full-time Lecturers.

Strategic Direction II: Enhancing Graduate and Professional Programs

Recommendations: Ask for clarification on Franklin College's capacity/ responsibility for strengthening graduate and professional programs relative to the Graduate School's. In other words, clarify what the College, specifically, can do to reach the benchmarks stipulated in the 2020 University Strategic Plan, particularly in the area of financial support.

Strategic Direction III: Investing in Proven and Emerging Areas of Research Excellence at UGA

Recommendations: Clarify what qualifies as "proven and emerging areas of research excellence" across all academic units. Seek out a methodology for identifying strengths and weaknesses in each unit.

Strategic Direction IV: Serving the Citizens of the State of Georgia and Beyond

Recommendations: Make available and accessible information and data—such as that pertaining to the increasingly important area of service learning—that would clarify the specific ways (beyond media communications) in which the College is serving the citizens of Georgia, the nation, and the global community.

Strategic Direction V: Improving Faculty Recruitment, Retention, and Development

Recommendations: 1) Make available data on the ways in which the College's efforts at strengthening diversity are reflected in the faculty. **2)** Work to further improve faculty work-life balance and enhance the support system for College employees. The Dean's Office, for example, could provide for a centralized system of coordinating "quality of life" issues across all academic units.

Strategic Direction VI: Improving and Maintaining Facilities and Infrastructure to Provide Excellence in Instruction, Research and Service

Recommendations: Make available more information on how Franklin College is meeting the priorities outlined in the 2020 University Strategic Plan: for example, in the areas of new facilities, library services, class and lab space, etc. Explain how building projects currently underway relate to the College.

Strategic Direction VII: Improving Stewardship of Natural Resources and Advancing Campus Sustainability

Recommendation: As called for in the University Strategic Plan (under Institutional Priority [e]), develop a mechanism to identify and increase the public visibility of activities related to stewardship of natural resources and campus sustainability.

Additional Recommendations:

1. As suggested in a number of the recommendations identified elsewhere in this document, Franklin College faculty and staff (and the Faculty Senate) would benefit from having increased access to information contained in the Franklin College annual reports, strategic plans, and goals. This information would improve faculty reporting, as it contains valuable content in support of funding requests for training grants, collaborative program grants, etc.

2. Franklin College administrators, faculty and staff would further benefit from a more standardized reporting system. The College should standardize how it collects information (such as that required of the Faculty Senate Annual Report) from each academic unit, as there exists a significant disparity in the amount of data (regarding, for example, honors and accomplishments) that is provided from each unit.