

Muhlenberg College Strategic Planning Process
President's Planning Group Meeting
Monday, December 7, 2009 • 5:00 p.m.
Seegers Union 111

In Attendance

Ms. Cynthia Amaya '01, Dr. Bruce Anderson, Mr. Adam Bernstein '12, Rev. Peter Bredlau, Mr. Michael Bruckner, Mr. Ken Butler, Mr. Kent Dyer, Ms. Laura Eldon '11, Mr. Amze Emmons, Dr. Kathleen Harring (guest), Dr. Randy Helm, Ms. Karen Green, Mr. Chris Hooker-Haring '72, Ms. Connie Harris, Dr. Trevor Knox, Ms. Christine Lake, Dr. Elizabeth McCain, Dr. Lisa Perfetti, Dr. John Ramsay, Mr. Roberto Rivera, Dr. Stefanie Sinno, Mr. Jordan Sones '10, Ms. Deborah Tamte-Horan (guest)

1. Review Strategic Planning Goals

The President asked for comments on an initial draft of Strategic Planning Goals. A spirited discussion followed for approximately an hour, resulting in a number of edits. The revised version will be posted at the Strategic Planning Website.

2. Interim Report Draft

The President thanked Cindy Amaya, Laura Eldon, Trevor Knox, and John Ramsay for their work on the draft and asked for comments. A brief discussion ensued and produced several useful edits. The interim report will be sent to the Muhlenberg community later this week.

3. The Academic Program (cont'd.)

Dr. Ramsay said that the sample initiatives presented during this evening would concern faculty development and curriculum. Registrar Deborah Tamte-Horan spoke about high-volume majors, pointing out where stresses lie among academic majors. Dr. Elizabeth McCain spoke about the benefits of increasing funds for travel to international conferences. Dr. Lisa Perfetti discussed ideas for faculty leadership development. Dr. Kathy Harring presented data from the BCSSE and NSSE that suggests we should not underestimate the appetite of our newly admitted students for more academic challenge. She also briefed the Group about the College's participation in the AAC&U Theory to Practice Project. Dr. Stefanie Sinno spoke about the Consortium for Faculty Diversity in Liberal Arts Colleges which helps increase the diversity of College faculties by young pre- and post-doc candidates. Mr. Amze Emmons presented the Faculty Development and Scholarship Committee's recommendation that the budget be increased for faculty scholarship. Dr. Bruce Anderson spoke about proposals for possible new majors. Dr. Ramsay referred the Group to an article by Robert Zemsky which proposes, among other things, the possibility of three-year degrees for motivated students. Dr. Trevor Knox spoke about providing incentives for close faculty-student interaction and high-impact pedagogies.