

**Muhlenberg College Strategic Planning Process**  
**President's Planning Group Meeting**  
**Tuesday, January 26 • 5:00 p.m.**  
**Seegers Union 112**

**In Attendance:**

Ms. Cynthia Amaya '01, Ms. Julie Ambrose (guest), Dr. Bruce Anderson, Mr. Adam Bernstein '12, Rev. Peter Bredlau, Mr. Michael Bruckner, Mr. Ken Butler, Ms. Wendy Cole (guest), Mr. Kent Dyer P'07, P'10, Ms. Laura Eldon '11, Mr. Amze Emmons, Dr. Randy Helm, Ms. Karen Green, Ms. Joyce Hommel (guest), Mr. Chris Hooker-Haring '72, P'09, P'10, Ms. Connie Harris, Dr. Trevor Knox, Ms. Christine Lake, Dr. Elizabeth McCain, Ms. Pamela Moschini (guest), Dr. Lisa Perfetti, Ms. Cailín Pachter (guest), Dr. John Ramsay P'12, Mr. Roberto Rivera, Dr. Stefanie Sinno, Mr. Jordan Sones '10, Dr. Carol Shiner Wilson (guest)

**Academic Support**

**1. Opening Remarks – President Helm**

The President reported on comments from the community on the Strategic Planning Goals. He said that the Campus Forum on the Strategic Plan will take place on Monday, February 15, at 7:00 p.m. in Moyer Hall, Miller Forum. The PPG meeting scheduled for that evening at 5:00 p.m. has been canceled. President Helm said that we also will need to solicit initiatives from the campus community, but that we will not need to wait until we have heard from all divisions to ask the community for their ideas.

**2. Overview of Presentations – Dr. John Ramsay, Provost**

Dr. Ramsay introduced the members of the Dean of the College for Academic Life staff in attendance at the meeting. Dr. Ramsay reminded the Group of the first three Strategic Goals, which speak directly to the student academic experience. The professional staff of each of these offices has a particular kind of expertise which is critical to the academic success of our students. Though these offices are often less visible on campus, they are key players in contributing to the College's sense of community.

**3. Ms. Joyce Hommel, Director of Trexler Library**

Ms. Joyce Hommel presented three possible initiatives for review: Rebuilding of the Library Collection Development; Preliminary Planning for Library Renovation and Expansion; and Establishment of an Academic Computing Services Task Force. Discussion followed.

**4. Overview of Career Center and Senior Year Experience, with Ms. Cailín Pachter, Director of the Career Center and Ms. Julie Ambrose, Director of Senior Year Experience**

Dr. Ramsay introduced the work of the Career Center and Senior Year Experience, then opened up the meeting for questions. Ms. Julie Ambrose stated that one of the more interesting concepts advanced by students during Reality MC was an interest in having faculty become more involved in career advising, which is exactly what Ms. Cailín Pachter has been advocating from the Career Center. Discussion followed.

**5. Dr. Carol Shiner Wilson, Dean of the College for Academic Life – Overview of Jump Start, Academic Resource Center, and Office of Disability Services**

Dr. Carol Shiner Wilson gave several positive examples of the kind of work that the Academic Resource Center and the Office of Disability Services do with our students. She then gave an overview of the Academic Resource Center and the Office of Disability Services.

Dr. Wilson stated that in recent years the numbers of students with special needs – and the complexity of those needs – has become greater. A first initiative is for a Bridge program – already being piloted – that will help students from disadvantaged backgrounds to succeed at the College. Discussion followed.

**6. Ms. Wendy Cole, Director of the Academic Resource Center and Ms. Pamela Moschini, Director of the Office of Disability Services**

Dr. Wilson stated that The Academic Resource Center is a highly rated and award-winning program, but seems to have become a victim of its own success, with the numbers of requests for tutoring and other services skyrocketing. The Center's vision and programming is based on current research and practice in the field. Ms. Wendy Cole spoke briefly, then invited questions. Discussions ensued concerning co-curricular credit (specifically, the co-curricular transcript) and e-portfolios, which were proposed in a faculty initiative.

Dr. Wilson stated that the Office Disability Services is another area where the College has been very successful, with a corresponding dramatic increase in demand for accommodations and services. Ms. Pamela Moschini said that the number and complexity of the types of requests for assistance that we received has greatly increased. Requests for accommodated testing alone have increased nearly 70% in three years. Discussion followed.