

University Plan Steering Committee

Report of Meeting on January 9, 2008

The University Plan Steering Committee met on January 9, 2008. Principal items of discussion included:

Updates on planning activities: Provost Goldberg reported on interviews with business, civic, and institutional leaders in the region. He also described the current status of the planning processes under way in the College of the Arts and Sciences and the Schools. In addition, he introduced a new member of the Steering Committee, Rhonda Williams, Associate Professor of History, who serves as chair of the President's Advisory Commission on Minorities.

Revised Planning Process Time Line: Dick Baznik reviewed a draft of a more detailed time line for the planning process over the next few months. The revised schedule calls for two half-day sessions of the Steering Committee in January and February, in addition to regular meetings of the group and related activities. Draft responses to the [five fundamental planning questions](#) will be posted on the planning web site by the third week of January, as will preliminary responses from the schools and the [Issues Task Forces](#). The Committee will schedule a first round of open forums for the campus to discuss drafts in February.

Updates from Issues Task Forces: The International Initiatives Task Force and the Library Task Force each presented revised information.

Recommendations from the Working Group subcommittees: The Steering Committee's [Working Group](#) had divided into two subcommittees to consider survey responses and other information bearing on fundamental planning questions 1 through 3, and had reported their findings at the previous meeting. At this meeting, the Steering Committee discussed their findings and sorted among a total of 28 suggested goals and strategies to determine which have the potential to help the University create competitive advantages, and which are important to meet critical needs of the institution. This information is being used to draft Steering Committee responses to questions 1 through 3, which will be further informed by submissions from the schools.

Follow-Up Survey Questions: Committee members discussed potential topics to be included in a follow-up survey to be launched later in January. They also discussed an unrelated issue that has been referred to the School of Medicine before further consideration by the Committee.