Report to Convocation from SMAC for Fall 2011

July 7 2011

Strategic planning is a major element in the accreditation process.

The purpose of SMAC committee is to ensure that the faculty and staff are aware of the College's strategic plan, and to give input to that plan.

During the past year, SMAC had its meetings and was overall quite productive in achieving its purpose.

Here is a summary of our activities, and some related outcomes.

Most importantly, SMAC produced the report on the faculty input to the mission, vision, and strategic plan. This was based on feedback faculty graciously provided at the January convocation meeting. That report became the basis for AACSB demonstration that we have shared governance of strategic plan in the College of Business.

As part of this process of providing feedback to the strategic plan, SMAC, recommended wording and comments, and in the second part is the undigested feedback of faculty and staff and administration that put down comments. The report went to CEC who used the feedback and make changes as they deem fit. SMAC did its job in making the recommendations. Faculty and staff did their job in providing feedback. The report itself is evidence to AACSB we are all working together in our shared governance. Congratulations to everyone present at the SMAC meeting on Feb 10th and to Renee Brown was present with her feedback virtually. Present: Kathleen Brook, David Boje, Patrick Gavin, Dan Mundfrom, Don Garland, Rusty Calk. Work remaining to be done is to connect with CEC and find out exactly what changes were implemented in the strategic plan based on faculty input.

SMAC looked at revenue generating ideas that can be presented by the College as the Provost considers which positions and monies may be recovered, reallocated, or not. Faculty senators, Russ Winn, Cindy Murrel and David Boje met with Provost Wilkins to present our report of issues to consider in implementing a policy regarding whether teaching for other institutions by NMSU regularized faculty might be a conflict of interest (see attached issue summary). Provost Wilkins said that she agrees this issue is best addressed through communication at the department and college level, not through a blanket ban on the practice. The Policy Manual already contains at least 11 pages on avoiding and handling conflicts of interest (pp. 108-118, sections 3.19-3.22). Provost Wilkins clarified that her main concern was not for the kinds of courses most college faculty teach. She agreed that we do not have many empty seats in those classes. Her focus is on potentially money-making postgraduate offerings, such as professional certifications for business executives (or Continuing Education Hours for some professions. Therefore the next meeting of SMAC will be about revenue generating ideas to offset the budget cut initiatives now in discussion.

It is a good thing that the College can put in a justification to have the swept away funds from these openings due to retirements, etc. returned. Discussion of this meeting led SMAC Chair, David Boje, to ask questions of the Provost in Faculty Senate, and her to do first of two forums on the budget process. This seemed to clarify many things.

Things Left To Do

1. Continue to provide feedback to continuously improve the strategic plan of the college
2. Review budget changes and provide feedback on the current budget exercise the Provost has initiated this fiscal year.