

Agenda For Town Hall Meeting

- **Provost Engstrom - comments about role of this planning process**

- **Short overview of ASP Committee work**

- **Open discussion of aspirations and strategic issues identified by the committee**

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ACADEMIC STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Carol Brewer, Chair
- Committee Members - Barry Brown, Blakely Brown, Perry Brown, Ray Carlisle, Sarah Cullison, Reed Humphrey, Stephen Kalm, Andrew King-Ries, Peggy Kuhr, Mark Medvetz, Jakki Mohr, Sean Morrison, Bill Muse, Andrew Ware

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Town Hall Meeting Schedule

TOPIC	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Prioritizing Strategic Issues	Fri Feb 6	1:10-2:30 PM	UC 330
Undergraduate Education	Tues Feb 10	3:30-5:00 PM	UC 330
Graduate Education	Wed Feb 18	12:00-1:30 PM	UC 326
Research, Creativity & Scholarship	Fri Feb 20	2:00-3:30 PM	UC Theater
Technology	Wed Feb 25	12:00-1:30 PM	UC 330
International Connections/Engagement	Fri Feb 27	1:10-2:30 PM	UC326

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CONTEXT FOR ACADEMIC STRATEGIC PLANNING AT UM

- Foundation for upcoming Accreditation process
- Identify key issues and opportunities to address over the next five years
- Guide for prioritization and decision making

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GOALS OF STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

- Develop up-to-date and ambitious Academic Strategic Plan
- Decision-making guide over the next five years.
- Align with the Mission and Core Values of UM
- Complement, inform and be informed by other planning efforts at UM (including at unit level)
- Inform how we focus of resources and energy on key issues
- Complement work for accreditation visit
- Help us build an even more effective university

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WORK COMPLETED

- Articulated aspirations for Academic Affairs
- Conducted an extensive environmental scan
- Identified strategic issues that influence our ability to realize aspirations

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ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

- Focused on both internal and external influences
- Internal Scan Areas - UM student body, access and affordability, the UM work force related to Academic Affairs, academic programs offered, technological capabilities and funding trends
- External Scan Areas - demographic trends, technology, trends in K-12 that reach into higher education, economic environment, political and regulatory environment, defining our competitors, natural resource issues, and international factors

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TYPES OF DATA GATHERED

- System-wide published strategic plans
- Reports of trends and expectations for higher education in Montana and beyond
- Unit operating plans from 2007
- Data enrollment, retention, cost of education, time to graduation, the workforce, diversity, research and creative activity, demographic trends, and so on
- Interviews of individuals with particular expertise related to the environmental scan
- targeted campus stakeholders responded to short survey

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ASPIRATIONS FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AT UM

In five years...

- UM will be well along the path to becoming a **major research university with an entrepreneurial spirit**, and will be a **major force in the evolution of Montana's economy and culture**.
- UM will **achieve/maintain an optimum intellectual and real world blend of the arts, sciences, and cultural experiences** for a truly interdisciplinary and collaborative campus.
- UM will be **recognized as a leader and innovator in key disciplinary areas**, capitalizing on our unique environment and location.

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ASPIRATIONS, continued

- UM will be known for having an **exciting and stimulating intellectual atmosphere for undergraduates, graduate students, faculty and staff**, for example,
 - UM will be **renowned for an intellectually exciting and distinctive undergraduate experience** that is integrated across the curriculum and prepares students for addressing the big questions that we face as a global society.
 - UM will provide a **world-class experience for graduate students**.
 - UM will be a **leader in two- and four-year education**, offering academic, professional/technical, transfer, and workforce programs that address the needs of diverse student populations and regional employers.
 - UM will be a **recognized regional leader in online and distance education**.
 - UM will have **faculty and students who are globally connected and engaged**.

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ASPIRATIONS, continued

- UM will be the **leader in Montana in diversity** and will be a **major force in the diversification** of both the workforce and student body.
- UM will have an **all-encompassing, seamless information technology environment** for all aspects of teaching, learning, and research.

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STRATEGIC ISSUES TO ADDRESS TO ACHIEVE OUR ASPIRATIONS

- a. The Undergraduate Experience** - create a world class curriculum and mindfully connect teaching and learning to best deliver this curriculum; this requires that we know who we are we preparing, what we are preparing them to do, and how best to retain them and prepare them to be successful.
- b. Development of COT/Community Colleges in Montana** – better articulation and synergy.
- c. Articulation Between K-12 and Higher Education in Montana**– including dual enrollment, teacher certification and in-service professional development, addressing deficiencies in preparation, and consistent outreach from UM to K-12 schools in Montana.
- d. Enabling Technology for Teaching and Scholarship** – how technology is funded and managed, looking toward the future of devices and web 2.0; paying attention to training, nimbleness.

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STRATEGIC ISSUES, Continued

- e. **Perceptions and Reality of the Cost of Education versus the Value of Education at UM** – who has access, addressing affordability; better branding and communication with stakeholders (in MT and beyond) of our scholarship and community service.
- f. **A Coherent Vision for Research, Creativity, and Scholarship** – identify where and how we want to cultivate distinction for discovery, innovation and leadership; a climate for interdisciplinarity; connection to the Montana economy.
- g. **Strengthening Communication and Transparency** - in line with our value and tradition of shared governance; better communication with stakeholders.
- h. **Workplace Conditions** - allow staff and faculty to meet their potentials, and allow them to collaborate more effectively in the areas of teaching, scholarship, and service.

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STRATEGIC ISSUES, Continued

- i. **Cultivate Graduate Programs** - attract excellent students and prepare them to make scholarly and creative contributions in their field; curriculum and research opportunities matched to our current reputation, student demand, and that capitalizes on our location; enhanced stipends and in-state status.
- j. **Diversity** – cultivating a climate and curriculum to value diversity and recognize the value of a diverse student body, faculty, and staff.
- k. **The Changing World Around Us** – attention to international programs and exchanges, research, key languages sustainability, interdisciplinarity, demographics, globalization, economies.
- l. **Achieving Optimal Enrollment** – what is optimal for UM and for the educational experience we value.

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NEXT STEPS

Finalize List of Strategic Issues: Feb 2009

- Campus-wide town hall meetings, visits to departments, and discussions (*meeting schedule will be announced in the next week*)
- Conduct surveys for comment and feedback as needed

Subcommittee Work to Develop Action Plans to Address the Strategic Issues: Mar - Apr 2009

- Appoint subcommittees for each strategic issue (*volunteers from campus community will be needed*)
- Define goals and indicators for each strategic issue
- Identify a feasible set of clear actions to achieve strategic goals
- Articulate resources needed to achieve goals

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Open Discussion

→ Open discussion of aspirations and strategic issues identified by the committee

- If you were a member of the committee, what direction would you take from this point forward?**
- If we proceed with the lists presented today, in 3 years what do you think we would find surprising (e.g., where might we wish we had spent more of our time and resources?)**

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Providing Feedback

Today:

- Use blue markers to make comments that affirm a strategic issue or extend it
- Use RED markers to make comments that challenge or disagree with a strategic issue

After Today:

- leave a comment on the blog on the ASP website at <http://www.umt.edu/asp>
- e-mail carol.brewer@umontana.edu
- contact any member of the ASP Committee
- attend topical town hall meeting(s)

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