Planning Council

Mission

The Planning Council is responsible for promoting an alignment between the institution's strategic plan and resource development and allocation. The Council defines the institutional criteria and procedures necessary to prioritize existing and proposed programs to be in alignment with MSU's Strategic Plan. In its advisory role to the President, the Council provides evidence-based input linking strategic planning with strategic execution, and facilitates the continuous evolution of the Strategic Plan itself.

Areas of Responsibility

1. Assess and confirm the link between the priorities in the Plan and the allocation of campus resources.
2. Regularly review new opportunities and environmental factors to assess and update the Plan.
3. Maintain a five year horizon on the Plan.
4. Establish measures to track progress on elements of the Plan.
5. Provide updates to the President and other Councils on progress toward Plan goals.
6. Develop a communication plan; be an advocate and champion for the Plan.
7. Review other unit level plans to ensure alignment with the Plan.
8. Review the MUS Plan and realign the MSU Plan when necessary.
9. Make recommendations to the BOR when necessary and appropriate.

Membership

VP for Planning Chair
*College of Agriculture Representative
*College of Arts & Architecture Representative
*College of Business Representative
*College of EHHD Representative
*College of Engineering Representative
*College of Letters & Science Representative
*College of Nursing Representative
*Library Representative
Faculty Senate Representative [Designated by Senate]
Staff Senate Representative [Designated by Senate]
Professional Council Representative [Designated by Council]
ASMSU Representative [Designated by ASMSU]
Community Member [President's Advisory Council]

* Designated by the President for 2010-2011. This will be an elected, two-year term beginning 2011-2012.
## Planning Council

### Membership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Represents</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rimpau, Jim</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>VP for Planning &amp; CIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albert, Steve</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>College of Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edelman, Adam</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Professional Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everts, Michael</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>College of Arts &amp; Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myers, Carrie</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>College of Education, EHHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neumeier, John</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Faculty Senate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nielsen, Raechell</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Staff Senate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raymond, Bruce</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>College of Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanderson, Michael</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Community Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siellof, Christina</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>College of Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singel, David</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>College of Letters and Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strittmatter, Connie</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>MSU Libraries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watts, Myles</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>College of Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welles, Kasey</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>ASMSU</td>
</tr>
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Updated September 17, 2010
In order to increase the overall educational attainment of Montanans and provide an efficient and effective system of higher education, the Regents' Workgroup on Reform and Reinvention recommends that nine key elements be undertaken to achieve a *Success Agenda* in the Montana University System.

1. **Institutional Role Differentiation**
   - Define distinct roles for the primary components of the MUS (Doctoral Research Universities, Baccalaureate/Masters Universities, Comprehensive 2-year Colleges)
   - Utilize role guidelines to serve as templates to develop policies and criteria that:
     - Sustain quality academic programs
     - Increase access AND student success
     - Guide development of new programs and research
     - Provide for efficient delivery of programs, services and overall administration
     - Emphasize collaboration with K-12
     - Target resource allocation

2. **Admission Standards**
   - Utilize multiple criteria in admissions policies to help align students with the university/college that matches their academic preparation, goals, and abilities
   - Strengthen enrollment management strategies, such as requiring more rigorous documentation of college readiness at doctoral/research universities, in order to improve student success
   - Reaffirm the open admissions concept of comprehensive 2-year colleges within Board policy to improve access and clarify differences between 2-year and 4-year (College!Now)

3. **Transferability**
   - Ensure seamless transferability between institutions through a system of common course numbering and aligned student learning outcomes
   - Develop a Board approved transfer credential (e.g. Regents Transfer Program) to improve 2-year to 4-year transfer rates and success (College!Now)

4. **Community College Programs** (College!Now)
   - Increase utilization, enrollment and degree production in community college programs by targeting:
     - Academically under-prepared
     - Pre-college students (dual enrollment)
     - Non-traditional students (25+ yrs.)
   - Clarify and promote the community college mission in Montana and role within the MUS by:
     - Rebranding the Colleges of Technology
     - Defining regional hubs with differential tuition policy, program delivery, etc.
5. Need-based Financial Aid
   - Work to develop strategies to reduce unmet student need
   - Increase the amount of need-based student aid

6. Program and Service Alignment
   - Align program development, expansion, and contraction with consistently assessed workforce demands
   - Focus programming to eliminate unnecessary/undesired duplication of programs by:
     - identifying institutional niches
     - utilizing distance learning, especially for collaborative approaches
     - aligning business practices and integrating technology to improve system-wide collaboration and increase student access
   - Increase investment in research and graduate programming to amplify institutional expertise and improve Montana’s economy

7. Performance-Based Funding
   - Align targeted outcomes with institutional type through purposeful allocation of resources based on programming type
   - Associate achievement in key performance areas with aspects of funding (allocation model)
   - Define, measure, and reward success by institution

8. Data and Information
   - Integrate data throughout the MUS in order to:
     - Improve student access and services
     - Increase administrative efficiencies
     - Improve academic coordination
     - Produce quality data

9. Communication & Advocacy
   - Effectively communicate the University System’s “product” to stakeholders
   - Develop a focused marketing and public relations strategy to increase support for higher education
The Regents' Workgroup on Reform and Reinvention recommend the following improvements to the MUS planning process.

Planning Process
The Board of Regents is committed to a biennial planning and review process that includes a broad array of University System stakeholders.

At the beginning of each biennium the MUS will hold a comprehensive planning meeting with representatives from MUS constituencies throughout the state. The goal of the meeting is to conduct a biennial review and update to the MUS Strategic Plan, including:

- review of key outcome measures and performance indicators;
- revisions and updates to strategic goals; and
- development and review of strategic initiatives.

MUS Strategic Plan

Guiding Principles

In order to provide a dynamic and effective strategic plan, the Board of Regents subscribes to the following Guiding Principles for the on-going development and review of the MUS Strategic Plan.

Systematic
The planning and review cycle for the MUS Strategic Plan will take place over the course of a biennium, whereby the Plan is assessed, reviewed, and updated at the beginning of each biennium.

Accountable
Outcomes and measurements of the strategic goals will be made public and communicated on a regular basis.

Inclusive
The planning and review process will seek to include a broad array of stakeholders from throughout the state.

Flexible
The MUS Strategic Plan is intended to be a flexible document that can adapt to the changing environment within higher education and throughout the state/nation.

Campus Connected
Campus strategic plans will be connected to the broader strategic goals in the MUS Strategic Plan.

Statewide Focus
The planning process will include a statewide focus on advancing higher education throughout the entire state.

National Context
National trends and initiatives will be considered throughout the planning process and aid in the development of strategies and initiatives.

2013 Biennial Planning Timeline
July 2011 – MUS Planning Meeting (assess, review and update)
Sept 2011 – Board of Regents approval of operating budgets
July 2012 – Annual update to outcome measurements (posted to web)
Sept 2012 – Dec 2012 – Communication and advocacy campaign related to strategic plan