Planning Council Minutes  
Tuesday, June 14, 2011  
11:00 – 12:00  
Reid 415

Rimpau, Jim  Leist, Terry  Raymond, Bruce  Singel, David  
Edelman, Adam  Maher, Rob  Sanderson, Michael  Watts, Myles  
Everts, Michael  Myers, Carrie  Sieloff, Christina  
Fastnow, Chris  Neumeier, John  
Guest: Joe Fedock

I.  Call to Order and Introductions.

II.  Approval of May 10, 2011 minutes.

✓ Approved

III.  Discussion Items:  
A.  Mission Statement (MS) update:  
Report on comments received in meetings.  
Jim presented the MS to both the President’s Executive Committee and an 
aademic retreat attended by the President, Provost and Deans.  In each of those 
meetings it was suggested that the words “and art” could be deleted from the MS.  

Discussion about the removal of ‘and art’ from the MS.  
The Planning Council (PCouncil) was divided on whether the term ”art” should 
still be a part of the statement.  An informal vote was taken and about half of the 
council members thought ”art” should stay and a few members were indifferent.  
A suggestion was posed regarding ”art” and ‘creativity’ being addressed in the 
next level, in Core Themes or objectives.  
The working group will continue the discussion at their next meeting.  Jim said he 
would have another conversation with President Cruzado and report back to the 
council.

B.  Core Themes (CT) update:  
Report on working session’s progress on the first Core Theme.  
Examples of MSU Billings and MSU GF’s format were handed out. Other 
universities have much more specific, and less comprehensive, objectives than 
our working draft. The group determined the objectives needed to be more 
specific with a few indicators for each, but some of the content can rightfully 
reappear in the strategic plan. The indicators could overlap and be used across the 
objectives. The working group will continue the discussion at their next meeting.

C.  Peer Institutions discussion:
There is no mandated set of peers for Higher Education institutions in Montana. The PCouncil is likely to need a set of peer institutions to do benchmarking against. The Council will compile a list of peer institutions that could be used for benchmarks by the other Councils and groups on campus. The Council was concerned that potential uses of the peer list should drive development of the list. Jim Rimpau and Chris Fastnow will provide the group with a number of potential uses (i.e. research expenditures, salary, faculty productivity, etc) for the Peer Institution list. We will have a meeting for those Council members who are interested in discussing potential peers and try to have a recommendation ready by the July Council meeting.

D. New Meeting Time
The group will be looking at the 3rd Tuesday between 1-3pm and will finalize via email.

IV. Other Business
No other business was discussed.

Next Working Sessions: June 15, 11:00-1:00 (Reid 415)
June 29, 11:00-1:00 (Reid 415)
July 13, 11:00 – 1:00 (Reid 415)

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, July 12, 11:00-12:00, (SUB 233)