Governance Steering Council
Draft agenda
8/31/16

Attendees:
JC Weiss
Stephanie Gibson
Megan Manley
James Hale
Mariame Dangnokho
Keith Laury
Keiver Jordan
John Brenner

Introductions

Handoff from AY16 to AY17 folks (slightly delayed)

Election of Chair and Secretary

- JC nominates Stephanie (James second); unanimous approval
- Secretary rotates between members (except Chair); all agreed
- Vice Chair (James nominates and JC Weiss); unanimous approval

Governance assessment and recommended revisions

- JC and Stephanie reviewed all of the GSC assessments and made recommendations to the GSC Plan of Organization, the GSC bylaws, and the Faculty Senate (see attachment)
- JC provided a brief history of shared governance at UB. Shared Governance was revamped a few years ago and it seems to be working better now.
- Changes need to be made to organization and structure (example: quorum for GSC meetings)

Strategic Planning and Budget Committee

JC explained the background for a new University committee (see attachment). It was noted during the Middle States Assessment that a more comprehensive Strategic Planning and Budget Committee is needed at the University. The SPBC was made by President and other leaders (after a discussion it was unanimously approved at the President's Executive Committee). The charter was drafted by JC and Stephanie. They reviewed other universities that went through accreditation and used their strategic committees as a guideline. This committee serves as an advisory role to and reports to the President. It is staffed by the Office of President for administrative tasks (ex. minutes, notes, files, etc.). The membership is set at 28 people (20 voting), with staggered terms.

It is noted that a few recent changes were not incorporated in draft that was distributed. One of the changes is that the UFS President may not want to co-chair this committee; however, the UFS President should choose the co-chair. The other co-chair is the VP Institutional

Effectiveness. But the same thing applies to this co-chair. This person may or may not want to serve so maybe the decision should belong to President.

Questions/Concerns

- Student membership should be elected by SGA Executive Board (this point was later changed to appointed by SGA President)
- Does this group create the strategic plan for the University?
    - Yes
    - There are dates already set for meetings beginning fall 2016
- Will the committee meet more when a strategic plan is due?
    - Circumstances change so committee meets as needed (not necessarily more when strategic plan is due)
- What is the review process for ratification of document? This is a President committee and leaders want governing bodies to support (Executive Committee has passed this)
    - JC will not ask UFS for a formal vote
    - This document is not from the administration; JC and Stephanie drafted
- Can the President veto this committee?
    - Yes; this committee deals directly with President. There are no intermediaries.
- James stated he cannot support this committee replacing the budget committee and then not reporting to the GSC. Likewise the membership is highly skewed in favor of faculty and also the Provost Division. There should be equal representation for all three governing bodies, regardless if the committee reports to the GSC. Students and staff are underrepresented.
    - Stephanie responds by stating that faculty have more interest and influence in University matters.
    - Response: but aren't we all equal.
    - Response: We are not equal.
- Keiver states that if budget cuts were to happen again, then this committee, which heavily represents and favors faculty, can outvote other areas because of the size of the membership. An equal balance of members across the institution will serve the entire university.
- JC noted that there is language that this committee will be reviewed every two years for effectiveness.
    - Keith asks if staff would be satisfied with keeping the membership as it is and then re-evaluating in two years.
    - Response: No, the membership must be an actual representation of the university

Committee charges and tasks