

Arts and Humanities Working Group
Minutes
2.21.06
3 P.M.-5 P.M.
202 Tigert

Attendees:

Brigitte Weltman-Aron
Kirk Ludwig
Alex Alberro
Bob Hatch
Barbara Barletta
John Leavey
Pramod Khargonekar
Vasudha Narayanan
Ruth Lowery
Charles Mason

John Leavey called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved.

Dr. Leavey discussed the data generated by David Dickson. The data showed that the percentage of growth of faculty is not comparable to the percentage of growth for students.

The group needs to determine how to make the case for having more resources dedicated to the arts and humanities.

Possible ways to proceed:

- (1) The case should be justified by noting the type of program desired, the support necessary and how we compare to other institutions with respect for the program in question. Also, a comparison should be done to note how the top 10 universities rate in regards to the humanities and how the arts and humanities contribute to the overall campus excellence.
- (2) One of the goals of the working group could be to develop mechanisms between colleges so colleges can collaborate and share resources.
- (3) The working group should also put emphasis on graduate student numbers because UF is a research institution and as the graduate programs increase the undergraduate programs become more prestigious.
- (4) The working group should also work to develop post-graduation placement records for undergraduate and graduate students.

The group agreed to focus on interdisciplinary work and making related tasks more practical. The working group also agreed that they should work with the administration to have humanities part of the long-term strategic plan.

The group could

- (1) examine institutional changes and how they could enhance the role of humanities and the arts in cross-disciplinary programs;
- (2) examine raising the profile of humanities and the arts with several audiences including administration, national and internal publics, alumni. (How to pitch effectively to show that this will help the university?)
- (3) examine why the Arts and Humanities are important and how they will contribute to the University's mission, their current state and status at UF (strengths/problems), what would it take to be excellent (look at peers), and specific strategic steps (prioritize list immediate and long-term) .

Three subcommittees were formed to form a preliminary statement on the arts and humanities at the University of Florida:

- (1) Strategic Planning for the Humanities and the Arts (Ludwig, Alberro, Khargonekar, Leavey)
- (2) Institutional Resistances to the Humanities and the Arts (Narayanan, Weltman-Aron, Barletta, Leavey)
- (3) Profile of the Humanities and the Arts (the varied audiences we deal with) (Hatch, Narayanan, Mason)

John will send out email to the list for others to work on the subcommittees.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 P.M.