July 9, 2014

Strategic Planning Retreat

Part I: Mission

College of Humanities and Natural Sciences Mission (Current Language)

In fulfilling its role to provide all Loyola students with a foundation in the liberal arts and sciences, the College of Humanities and Natural Sciences has as its mission to educate and graduate students who are prepared to lead meaningful lives with and for others; who appreciate and contribute to the understanding of global cultures; who comprehend the interrelated nature of all knowledge; who are able to think critically and make decisions for the common good; and who have a commitment to the Ignatian tradition of a life of justice and service to others.

It is the mission of the college to contribute to the expansion of knowledge through the scholarly and creative activities of its faculty and students.

College of Humanities and Natural Sciences Mission (Proposed Language)

MISSION LANGUAGE #1. The College of Humanities and Natural Sciences is the essential core of the institution. In fulfilling its role to provide all Loyola constituents with a foundation in the liberal arts and sciences, the College of Humanities and Natural Sciences has as its central mission to contribute to the expansion of knowledge through the scholarly and creative activities of its faculty and students, and educate and graduate students who are prepared to lead meaningful lives with and for others; who appreciate and contribute to the understanding of global cultures; who comprehend the interrelated nature of all knowledge; who are able to think critically and make decisions for the common good; and who have a commitment to the Ignatian tradition of a life of justice and service to others.

MISSION LANGUAGE #2. The College of HNS provides all Loyola students with a foundation in the liberal arts and sciences, and contributes to the expansion of knowledge through the scholarly and creative activities of its faculty and students within and across the disciplines. It has as its mission to educate and graduate students who are prepared to lead meaningful lives with and for others; who appreciate and contribute to the understanding of global cultures; who are able to think critically and ethically (empathetically?) and guide decisions for the common good; and who have a commitment to the Ignatian tradition of a life of justice, service and engagement.

Part II: Vision

VISION LANGUAGE #1. By 2020 the College of Humanities and Natural Sciences would be the most central college and recognized as the core of the university.

VISION LANGUAGE #2. By 2020 the College of Humanities and Natural Sciences will be (regionally/nationally) recognized for its innovation in integrating scholarship, teaching and transformative action.

VISION LANGUAGE #3.We want to lead the institution in producing educated, skilled graduates\*.

Comments

Bullet points may be needed to identify specific areas, such as

a. Engage with New Orleans and all its complexities

b. Students

c. Maintain and enhance a strong yet flexible curriculum

d. Jesuit values

e. Interdisciplinary programs

f. Collaborative work

g. Experiential learning.

h. Being part of a 28-university system, and one of the largest private higher-education systems in the world.

i. The need for more bonding with others in other departments to become aware of what’s going on and promote working together.

j. The need to offer more computational skills, and reaching across disciplines.

k. A concern is that graduates are just floating around without relevant skills.

l. Students need them to relate to the world.

m. Overlaps and duplication of effort in teaching

n. Emphasizes our differences rather than connections.

o. HNS needs to institutionalize the making of these connections as a goal by integrating this vision into the processes of promotion, tenure and hiring.

p. HNS should move from accidental pockets of innovation to a sense of culture and a driving marker of Loyola, moving outward to region beyond.

r. Reaching beyond departments and colleges

\* A group stated: We want to lead the institution in producing educated, skilled graduates. The group noted the need for computer science, computational science, pre-health programs, experiential learning, collaboration, and career skills. They observed an increasing connection to the community in internships for HNS majors and the need to further develop this connection and increase student skills. They expressed the need for computational skills as a fundamental need but noted that computer science is more than computational science.