

## Meeting Notes

Faculty Area Meeting

Tuesday, August 31, 2010

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

B. 180, rm. 134

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### Vision

- **Seems like a retreat from the 1<sup>st</sup> draft, accountability, and bioregion**
- **Has less focus upon ecological sustainability**
- Economic focus: sustainable economy not well defined.
- Accessibility within region and social justice missing
- Community should be a thread not a single activity
- No sense of continuing to do well what we did previously, e.g. academic things
- Did not feel connected to the past

### Academic Plan

- **Need to link ideas to rationale**
- **First Nations Studies concerned about Indigenous Faculty proposal. Arts and Humanities would like First Nations Studies to remain where it is.**
- Recognize that Senate has authority for many of these items
- Important to define Senate procedures
- **Shared disciplinary learning experiences; diverse community**
- **Important to recognize the diversity of community (pg. 13)** and the fact that rank and title may not be important to all of the communities
- **Notion of title and how it relates to our unique identity – our flat structure works for us**
- Is a **unique institution** – collegial and collaborative now, but **will rank and titles disrupt this?**
- **Issue with tenure** – regularization, and creating that language, took a lot of time
  - Tenure does not help trades
  - Many are left out of tenure track process
- Some ideas have been discussed and others parachuted in
- Lacks profile of VIU as we go forward (had to anticipate future of institution), e.g. Grad studies (degree, scale, scope)
- **Document needs to provide greater clarity of institutional profile** and specific recommendations, e.g. Grad studies
- Do we need a separate Faculty of Graduate Studies?
  - **Concerns about future grad program management**
  - Not convinced
- Need **definition of what constitutes a Faculty**

- Question about commitment to sustainability ***we are doing much now***
- Role of chairs in plan is to facilitate scholarship – this is the Dean’s role
- Assessment and prioritization piece needs increased budget accountability and discussion
- Pg. 38 – need to invest in increased student support and ***need more discussion on student services (see Ohio State University Academic Plan [20 pages])***
- Interesting themes in document but ***need to build on existing strengths*** and identify deficits
- ***Document does not reflect what some do***; it should celebrate what we do – much of which is good
- Take an organic approach
- Concern that this reads as a traditional university document that is fixed
- ***We need a common vision that can be supported by the different academic and service areas***
- ***Concern about how to provide comments*** especially for those feeling directly affected
- Public good versus private interest?
  - ***Where do we fit?***
  - How, and where, do we direct our capacity regarding private interest?
  - ***Should encourage that conversation***
- ***Evaluation is important*** to continually improve
- Evaluation should incorporate student evaluation
- An evaluation paper with detailed process has been developed previously
- Evaluations need to be positive to help instructors grow
- How do we adapt what we do to what learners want and how does that relate to our delivery of what is needed?
- ***How do we hold to our standard of education?***
- Need clarification around open University with language that addresses that