

Meeting Notes

Faculty Area Meeting

Thursday, September 9, 2010

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

B. 310, rm. 218 (Malaspina Theatre)

Vision

- **Does not provide useful direction/meaning;** seems very general, and is **not inspirational.**
- Seems to do everything; **should focus on learning**
- Learning is buried in Vision
- Bullets imply a rank order (need learning at the top)
- What happens between needs, words and actions? **Need mechanism to respond in a timely manner.**
- Vision **should apply to all areas of university and not separate out Nanaimo and regional campuses** (leave references to regional campuses to Outreach and Community Engagement plan)
- Needs to identify our core values and distinguish VIU from other
- **Too many values?** E.g. combine celebration and achievement
- Life value – how does it relate to our VIU values; it is too abstract

Academic Plan

- Important to focus on student success and breadth of delivery and programming
- Need to **embrace support for student success**
- Student Services restructuring:
 - **How was Campus Career Centre placed in non-academic area** (e.g. they have full-time faculty)? They need to be placed in the academic area
- Not all programs are part of a laddering process
- Page 56: Access should be 'a' goal, not 'the' goal
- Anticipated statement of principles, overarching goals, plan seems prescriptive e about unarticulated issues; **should be more about principles/process**
- **Support Aboriginal section**, discussion and involvement of elders, and increased support for faculties and aboriginal awareness
 - Question the viability of a Faculty of Indigenous Studies
 - **This is an area where VIU can distinguish itself**
- Administrative infrastructure:
 - Are we out of balance?
 - Should we be spending more money?
 - **Where is this coming from? Needs more rationale**

- How will the money be spent?
- **Unbundling of Adult and Continuing Education:**
 - **How will that work?**
 - Who will deliver is questionable because of the move
 - **Centre for Continuing Studies provides entry point to VIU**
 - Will increase fear factor if there is no special continuing studies model
 - Distinction between Adult Basic Education and Continuing Studies may get lost
 - **Adult Basic Education and Faculty of Education are not a natural fit**
- Research Office will be greatly impacted by Academic Plan and **plan needs to detail implications**
- **Focus on research dealing with region and communities can isolate some faculty whose area is not region related**
 - Currently there is an issues of load of time
 - Research Office should support those people who have time and interest
 - **Curiosity driven research is important**
- **In regards to programming, how do we determine relevance and responsiveness** with the range of interests
 - Needs to make clear who is responsible for making that decision
- Rank and title as attainment of academic excellence and freedom – is that correct?
- If we did move towards rank and title, **how would we reward?**
- Plan relates rank and title to evaluation – they do not need to be linked
- In regards to rank and title, not everyone is research oriented, how do we sort that out?
- Important to be aware that Senate has limited resources in relation to recommendations calling for a senate sub-committee and prioritization of items