

## Minutes of Eastern Illinois University Vitalization Workgroup Seven

Friday, October 7, 2016

Members present: Cindy Rich, Heather Webb, Assege HaileMarian, Scott Stevens, Mike Murray, Angie Campbell, Joyce Schumacher, and Danelle Larson; There were also seven guests in attendance.

- I. The meeting was called to order by Cindy Rich, (Chair), at 1:00 P.M. in the Shelbyville Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Self-introductions of team members followed. Cindy Rich then thanked the team for their participation as well as thanked staff for their support in supplying the information and data we will be using in our analysis.
- II. A brief discussion was held relative to meeting times. It was decided we would meet on Tuesdays at 8 A.M. and Fridays at 1 P.M. (as necessary).
- III. Cindy explained that everyone in the workgroup was welcome to talk to anyone about the process or our work but reminded all that they were speaking for themselves and not the workgroup itself. She asked everyone in attendance, (including guests), that during our meetings, cellphones be turned off and that side conversations be kept to a minimum.
- IV. The group reviewed our charge as well as the criteria by which our work will be framed. "The charge of Workgroup #7 is framed by assessing the viability and sustainability of each of EIU's academic undergraduate and graduate programs through the considerations of quality of program, centrality of program to university mission, student enrollment and market demand of program by prospective students, and the revenue/expense profile of the program."
- V. The project timeline was then reviewed. It was noted that our preliminary recommendations are due to the President, VPs and Unit Leaders by 11/1/2016. Phase two of our work will be between 11/22/16 and 12/15/16 where we develop our final recommendations for the President.
- VI. Much discussion ensued around definitions of programs, and criteria; especially "quality and market demand", as well as what was meant by "centrality" to the mission of the University. The Mission and Vision statements of the University were reviewed. It was noted that the Vitalization Data Deck did not contain all of the Net Revenue figures for all of the programs (degrees). Cindy will follow-up to see if that information is available.
- VII. The chair asked that each of us think critically about how we would like to define programs and the criteria provided in order to effectively scope our task and proceed with our analysis. She also asked we think about what data sources we might use in our analysis. Discussion and hopefully agreement on the definitions will be reached at our next meeting.
- VIII. Two subgroups were created for the purpose of looking at the programs. It was noted that the groups were formed in such a way that individual workgroup members would not be looking at their own colleges.

Guests were then given an opportunity to make comments to the workgroup. Everyone thanked us for undertaking this difficult task. The general themes presented included that numbers alone do not tell the whole story. There are program that make money and some do not. Those that do, support those that do not and that is what makes us a University. Information was presented that indicated many students in many programs (especially the humanities) do not necessarily work in their fields of study but rather secure employment in other areas. Concern was expressed about what is the definition of "Sustainability and Viability".

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 P.M. The next meeting will be at 8:00 A.M. on Tuesday, October 11, 2016 in the Shelbyville Room