

Vitalization Work Group 8
Meeting Minutes 11/14/16, 4:00pm
3108 Blair Hall

Members present: Jeffrey Stowell (Chair), Ryan Hendrickson (Task Force Coordinator), Samantha Boomgarden, Renee Kidd-Marshall, Kimberly Kuspa, Peter Liu, Kelly Miller, Britto Nathan, Nora Pat Small, and Amy Rosenstein.

Dr. Stowell introduced Dr. Ali Moshtagh, Department of Economics. Dr. Moshtagh gave an overview on EIU's effort to establish a 2+2 program in Agricultural Business and Supply (Lakeland) to BA in Economics at EIU. Unfortunately, this initiative did not succeed as Lakeland was less than enthusiastic to work with EIU. The committee thought that administration at Lakeland and EIU should find ways to strengthen their partnership in higher education.

Dr. Small gave a presentation to recommend Arts at EIU as our signature program. She mentioned that we have state of the art facilities (Doudna and Tarble) to support existing programs and to develop new interdisciplinary programs at undergraduate and graduate levels. Dr. Small stated that students from various discipline are involved in our Arts programs. She envisions that new Art programs, at both undergraduate and master's levels, can be developed to entice more students to our campus. Dr. Rosenstein mentioned that Eastern lacks an "artsy village" environment to appeal to students and general public. Mrs. Miller shared information on signature programs at other universities. Dean Hendrickson suggested that we could follow the "First Choice" model in graduate education to identify signature programs. Dr. Liu emphasized the importance of arts at EIU to visitors, students, and general public. Dr. Nathan mentioned that most programs at Eastern would qualify to be a signature program, and therefore, selecting a few programs would be difficult. Dr. Stowell directed the attention of the committee to a dropbox file on WIU Signature Program Criteria, which stimulated discussion on how to solicit input from campus community.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30

Minutes recorded and submitted by Britto Nathan