

Academic Planning Summit

Program Agenda

Ideas towards implementing the University's academic vision

January 30, 2009

Memorial Union

8:30am **Check in, coffee, and light refreshments**
Memorial Union Ballroom

9:00 am **Welcome by the Provost**

The New Academic Vision for the Future

Goals for the Planning Summit

- Engage the faculty of the university in discussion of issues critical to creating the vibrant and vital learning-centered research university of the 21st century.
- Products of the Summit:
- A set of recommendations and ideas, stemming from the academic vision, which will form a basis for a draft academic plan over a five - year horizon.
- Follow up implementation plans for key task forces

10:00 am – **Break out Discussions will occur in various rooms throughout the**
12:00pm **Memorial Union**

Select one session from the topics below.

Develop one set of mutually agreed upon recommendations:

- In the form of goals, priorities, targets, or ideas that relate to the questions for your group;
- That reflects or helps to realize the academic vision
- That can later be incorporated into planning goals over a 5-year horizon.

*The questions under each session may be used as guides for discussion, or the group may choose to pursue different questions.

Session 1

How can undergraduate and graduate education best prepare students for the world of the future?

(Facilitators: Annemarie Vaccaro, Dean Libutti)

Room: Ballroom

What outcomes are you looking for with regard to the following questions?

- A. The University's programs need to prepare future generations of students for a complex global world. How do we create that global perspective for all students?
- B. How can we help students learn about human-induced global changes, including ecological, economic, social, and human well-being dimensions?
- C. How can students develop an enhanced multicultural perspective that will better serve them in a diverse and increasingly interconnected world?

Session 2

How can we better encourage and promote interdisciplinary learning, research, scholarship, and creative work of faculty and students that directly engage some of the major challenges and opportunities facing humanity in these times?

(Facilitators: Brad Moran, Mike Rice)

Room: Atrium 1

What outcomes are you looking for with regard to the following questions?

- A. How can programs of research and scholarship reflect the highest degree of interdisciplinary learning and discovery approaches, including cross-college initiatives and connections with community organizations, business, and government?
- B. What are new models or practices that URI should integrate to further interdisciplinary approaches to learning and discovery?
- C. What barriers need to be removed and incentives developed that would foster greater interdisciplinary approaches to the learning environment?

Session 3

How does URI demonstrate a comprehensive commitment to serving the distinctive social, economic, and ecological opportunities and challenges of the Ocean State that can serve as a model for the world?

(Facilitators: Laura Beauvais, Abu Bakr)

Room: America's Cup Room

What outcomes are you looking for with regard to the following questions?

- A. How can our programs be developed/focused to further contribute to economic development and societal well-being? How can research and scholarship be translated and help to better deploy the intellectual resources of students and faculty?
- B. What systems or processes would facilitate the development of partnerships and desired changes?
- C. How does the University parlay its capacity in marine ecosystems and coastal communities/economies and use its expertise to advance economic development?

Session 4

How does the University cultivate a mindset for an integrated learning approach that reflects a life long learning philosophy/model?

(Facilitators: Laurie Lauzon Clabo, Barbara Pagh)

Room: Atrium II

What outcomes are you looking for with regard to the following questions?

- A. What new curricula, programs, research, or scholarship will provide learning opportunities for life long learners? How can we better integrate a multicultural perspective to more effectively prepare students for leading and thriving in a diverse world?
- B. What new population segments should be targeted?
- C. How can the university contribute to the State and beyond in this capacity, perhaps becoming a resource for businesses and community organizations?

Lunch

Noon **Enjoy lunch with your colleagues from across the University**
Ballroom

1:00pm - **Afternoon Sessions:**
3:00pm

Session 5

What is “Liberal Education” for the 21st century? While “liberal education” certainly includes broad understanding of the arts, culture, society, and science, it also embodies a dimension of social responsibility and empowerment that prepares students to actively embrace complexity, diversity, and change and to apply knowledge and skills as responsible citizens.

(Facilitators: Laura Beauvais, Abu Bakr)

Room: Ballroom

What outcomes are you looking for with regard to the following questions?

- A. What are the fundamentals of liberal education and scholarship for the future? What does it mean for all URI students to be liberally educated?
- B. How do we ensure that all students of our students are liberally educated and responsible citizens of the world?
- C. How might general education better address these issues? How can research and scholarship be leveraged to address these issues?

Session 6

How might we maximize the learning environment in the context of time frame, facilities and efficiency?

(Facilitators: Annemarie Vaccaro, Dean Libutti)

Room: Gallery

What outcomes are you looking for with regard to the following questions?

- A. How should we develop the learning environment so that it offers students greater capacity for completing degrees in quicker more efficient timeframes?
- B. What else could help to deliver the curriculum more efficiently?
- C. How can the entire year be better utilized to promote our vision?

Session 7

How might we promote an education that transcends the classroom?

(Facilitators: Laurie Lauzon Clabo, Barbara Pagh)

Room: Atrium I

What outcomes are you looking for with regard to the following questions?

- A. How can we create a path for learning that goes beyond what is gained from an individual classroom, co-curricular, or community experience?
- B. What should we do more collaboratively across the University to promote an integrated learning paradigm for students?
- C. What programs, projects, and other initiatives can we develop with external organizations (community, business, government) to promote integrated learning beyond the classroom?

Session 8

How can we better encourage and promote innovation and enterprises that respond to some of the major world challenges?

(Facilitators: Brad Moran, Faye Boudreaux-Bartels)

Room: Atrium II

What outcomes are you looking for with regard to the following questions?

- A. How would a University steeped in research more effectively mobilize and translate application to meaning and value in the real world?
- B. How might an institute for innovation and enterprise serve to both educate students and promote innovation and enterprise activities?
- C. How can we advance the creation of partnerships with business and other sectors that would help to facilitate innovation and enterprise?

3:00pm - Closing –
3:30pm Meet in the Ballroom for closing thoughts.