Student Learning Enhancement Team

Friday, February 20, 2009

3:30 p.m., Peabody Boardroom, Administration Building


Also present were co-authors of the “Engaged Scholars, Engaged Citizens” pre-proposal: David Berle, Deborah Gonzalez, Su-I Hou, and Katherine Thompson. In addition, Linda Renzulli attended as an invited guest.


The minutes of the February 6, 2009 meeting were approved.

Rodney then reminded the team that this meeting marked the beginning of an accelerated schedule in the process of looking at the various themes and the eight pre-proposals the team has selected for further review. We may also want to draw some ideas from the remaining 22 pre-proposals. We need to take three developed proposals to the Leadership Team. For each, we will want a full vetting of the ideas themselves, plus their advantages and disadvantages as our Student Learning Initiative. Rodney added that he is especially concerned about the budgets for our proposals in light of the current funding situation.

Rodney then thanked the pre-proposal authors for coming, especially on such short notice. The team will use what it learns from this meeting to help to make decisions about which ideas best fit the criteria for a Student Learning Initiative.

David Berle presented a slide show that outlined his group’s ideas.

Several team members and Linda Renzulli asked questions during the presentation, and those were addressed by the co-authors. There was some discussion about the standing of our aspirational institutions with regard to service/engaged learning.

David Berle summarized their pre-proposal, emphasizing that it fulfills the criteria set out by the team: their idea is flexible and scalable, the outcomes are measurable, etc. Also, David emphasized that his group has met with several other pre-proposal authors about how their ideas could be incorporated into his group’s proposal. Deborah Gonzales added that the engagement of students goes behind service learning; it encompasses everyone on campus and in the larger community. UGA already has a sound foundation in this area, and their idea builds on that.

Rodney thanked the group for attending. The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,