

**QEP Committee Minutes**  
**Friday, October 7, 2022**  
**3:15 p.m.**

Members Present: Piers Rawling (chair), Philosophy; Casey Dozier, Career Center;; Maxine Jones, History; Cindy Chapa, Communication;; Gale Etschmaier, University Libraries; Ashley Bush, Business; Cathy Levenson, Biomedical Sciences; Jorge Piekarewicz, Physics; Michelle Rambo-Roddenberry, Engineering; Jim Whyte, Nursing; Dawn Carr, Sociology; Justin Kennemur, Chemistry, Beth Hodges, Stephen Tripodi, Social Work, Latika Young, Undergraduate Studies/Doctoral Student

Members Excused: Toby Park, Education Policy; Jayne Standley, Music; Research; Mark Riley, Graduate School; Ethan Venzas, Biological Science (Doctoral Student); Jorge Galeano, Engineering

Staff Present: Ruth Storm, Provost's Office; Robert Bradley, Provost's Office; Leslie Richardson, Center for Teaching and Advancement; James Beck, Graduate School; Tim Logan, Arts and Sciences; James Hunt, Institutional Research; Galiya Tabulda, Institutional Performance and Assessment; Sara Hamon, Undergraduate Studies.

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The Chair convened the meeting and indicated three items would comprise the agenda: the revisions to the University Strategic Plan, the Provost reflecting on the President's goals, and an analysis of recommendations regarding Doctoral Education issued in recent Quality Enhancement Reviews done by the Graduate School. Pending arrival of the Provost, the chair first introduced Tim Logan of the College of Arts and Sciences to discuss revisions to the current university strategic plan. The chair with the assent of the committee indicated the next QEP committee meeting would be October 21<sup>st</sup> followed by another meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Both would convene at 3:15 in 201 Westcott.

Dr. Logan provided a synopsis of the current university strategic plan and its various goals. As noted at the last meeting, the current plan covers the period 2017 through 2022. Dr. Logan's revision committee has been working on Goal II: Academic and Research Excellence. It along with Goal III, Diversity and Inclusion, appear in his view to have the most relevance to the QEP committee. There are four initiatives associated with the goal: 1. Grow the cadre of faculty in disciplines aligned with FSU's strategic goals, 2. Foster a University climate that promotes faculty excellence and retention, 3. Attract and graduate top graduate and professional school students and postdoctoral scholars, and 4. Increase interdisciplinary research and teaching. Dr. Logan distributed a handout that reflected his committee's most recent thinking regarding revisions to this goal and initiatives. The Goal has been relabeled as "Amplify Research and Academic Excellence." The committee has produced three revised initiatives, generally 1. Expanding the number of high-impact, highly recognized faculty; 2. Shape and grow FSU's research portfolio, 3. Initiate and develop professional development opportunities for graduate and professional students and for postdoctoral scholars. The committee is working on developing specific tactics under this initiative, many of which may affect doctoral students. Dr. Logan solicited the committee's request for such tactics related to this initiative or other elements

of Goal II. The committee will complete its draft in the next few weeks as part of the overall intent to revise the plan before the end of the year.

The Provost was introduced and began a description of the initial set of President's goals. They were:

1. Create a supportive entrepreneurial culture at FSU
2. Establish and cultivate relationships with elected and appointed government officials at the federal, state and local levels
3. Invest in academic excellence to drive greater student success
4. Attract and Graduate Top Graduate and Professional School Students and Postdoctoral Scholars
5. Expand overall diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives to become a community leader fully committed to inclusive excellence
6. Continue to promote excellence in Athletics through strategic planning, financial management and increased funding
7. Build upon FSU's history of productivity and continue to be recognized as being among the most efficient universities
8. Improve metrics toward a rise in the rankings, making Florida State University one of the nation's top 15 public universities, make progress toward membership in the AAU, and maintain FSU's status as a Preeminent University in Florida
9. Improve fundraising efforts to increase the number of gifts to support the university. Improve recognition of FSU's successes by utilizing targeted and effective marketing strategies to elevate the university's image
10. Build and develop a strong leadership team with a focus on improving organizational structure and implementing practice that drive efficiency and effectiveness

The Provost noted that several (e.g. #10, #2, #9) had already been achieved and that others need revision (e.g. #7) along with specific tactics within the current strategic plan. He suggested that many had direct relevance to the QEP committee – for example, numbers 3, 4, 5, and 8. The President's amendment of his goals is nearing completion and it is anticipated the changes will be reflected in the initiatives and tactics of a proposed new university strategic plan in the New Year.

The Provost introduced James Beck, Senior Graduate Policy Program Coordinator in the Graduate School. Mr. Beck distributed a handout on the "Most Common Recommendations for Doctoral Programs from QER's since 2015." The handout listed recommendations from external reviewers and Dean's action plans. It also identified notable doctoral student concerns. Committee discussion ensued around several of the items, including stipends, diversity, specialized site licenses and software training.

After a brief discussion about the agenda of the next meeting, the chair said that he would develop agenda items and circulate them to the members. He suggested he might request individual members to provide information related to doctoral education in their areas, such as libraries and the career center. The chair will provide a Zoom link. Upon motion of the Chair, the Committee adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Rb/ Logan handout  
Beck Handout

