

Strategic Resource Allocation Project Update - 10/23/17

Dear Colleagues,

The [SRAP website](#) is up and I'm happy to report that we've received many suggestions and comments from the Suggestion Box reporting tool. We will be publishing these suggestions later this week after we've finished categorizing them and indicating the office or group to which the suggestion has been directed for consideration. *Note: We'll also be sensitive to individual names and/or positions to avoid singling out any one individual.*

SRAP committee meetings: Last week the steering committee, the instructional and non-instructional review groups, and the financial aid strategies group met. The steering committee and review group meeting [notes](#) will be published on the web site. The review groups' work focused on finalizing the review questions to be completed by department managers and program directors. As departments are completing these questionnaires, the analysis should **focus on the current curriculum or program elements**, rather than speculate on what may be forthcoming as a result of the general education task force work, for example. The GE task force recommendations will inform the SRAP process separately at a point later on when those recommendations have been more fully vetted, as will the work of other groups also moving forward simultaneously. It is the steering committee's goal to have the SRAP questionnaires ready to be distributed next week. The financial aid strategies group is modeling a number of options to increase net tuition revenue with Hardwick Day, the College's enrollment recruitment consultant.

SRAP Discussion Drop-In Hours: We've set up the following times for me and members of the steering committee, as their schedules permit, to meet with individuals or groups to answer questions, hear your ideas and thoughts, and provide more information about what's driving the SRAP. These sessions will not be agenda driven, but allow for community members to drop in and ask any questions. You'll note that the drop-ins are scheduled throughout campus. The first two sessions are scheduled for this week in Skoglund and Tomson. I hope you'll take advantage of these informal opportunities.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Wednesday, October 25	2pm - 3pm	SAC112 - Skoglund
Thursday, October 26	1pm - 2pm	TOH212
Thursday, November 2	9am - 10am	BC220
Friday, November 3	12pm - 12:45pm	RML525
Monday, November 6	4pm - 5pm	CAD204A
Tuesday, November 14	4pm - 5pm	RNS136
Wednesday, November 15	8am -9am	HH429
Monday, November 20	12pm - 1pm	RNS356A
Tuesday, November 21	10am -11am	CHM224
Friday, December 1	3pm - 4pm	BC143

And finally, as we were preparing for the SRAP process, members of the President's Leadership Team and the Board of Regents discussed a thought-provoking article entitled: [The Small College Imperative: From Survival to Transformation](#) by Mary B. Marcy. The article explores five different models by which an institution may achieve sustainability in all aspects of its operations. It explores changes that adapt to evolving realities of costs, demographics, and quality. The article also discusses the variety of short-term actions that institutions typically take; St. Olaf has done several of them, most notably in the areas of "outsourcing" (food service, student health services), and collaboration (with Carleton) in a number of areas. St. Olaf programs can be seen in at least two of these models. For example we offer several popular pre-professional programs in what is described as the "New American College Model." We have very successfully implemented study abroad programs and high impact practices as described in the "distinctive program model." It's entirely possible that as a result of the SRAP process we see elements of the other models emerge. I encourage you to read the short article to help stimulate our thinking moving forward.

Regards,
Jan

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