SRAP Update: May 9, 2018

Dear Colleagues,

The instructional and non-instructional review groups presented their preliminary recommendations to the SRAP Steering Committee on April 27. Both groups acknowledged that there is additional analysis required for the suggestions and additional analysis will likely involve stakeholders or those with specific areas of expertise. The recommendations included activities and programs that can generate new revenue sources, result in expense reductions, and require program investments. They also included a very preliminary financial assessment of these suggestions as well as the rationale behind the recommendations.

At their meeting last week, the Board of Regents was provided a summary of the work presented by the two review groups. The Board took no action regarding the SRAP presentation, understanding that this is the initial pass at formulating options for consideration. There is more work to be done. The Steering Committee will now begin its work of analyzing and weighing recommendations, as well as seeking additional input from stakeholders. This will begin this month and continue into the summer months.

As I stated in an earlier SRAP update, all recommendations will be carefully reviewed. Those we choose to implement will need additional feedback, consideration and planning. Recommendations pertaining to curricular areas will go through the appropriate governance process as identified in the Faculty Manual. Those pertaining to non-curricular areas will be vetted with the appropriate stakeholders and vice presidents and implemented as part of the annual budget development process. Implementation of the SRAP decisions will likely occur over the next several years as the financial implications are refined and implementation plans are developed.

This phase of the SRAP process is probably going to be the most difficult as we await and then consider recommendations from the Steering Committee.

Input and feedback will continue to be sought as the Steering Committee reviews the recommendations received from the review groups. We will continue to provide updates throughout the summer and ask for assistance from those individuals whose summer schedules enable them to provide that assistance. We want to do this right to secure the financial future of St. Olaf College, and will do so authentically, transparently and with a commitment to all members of the St. Olaf community.

Thank you for your contributions, commitment, and patience as we navigate this important process.

Best, Ian

Jan Hanson

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