

Committee Members in Attendance:

Beth Lingren, Laura Coffin Koch, Christina Boettcher, Mark Bultmann, Mannix Clark, Bill Ganzlin, Andy Howe, Kitty Jones, Mary Kosir, Sally Lieberman, Ann Pineles, Jenny Rachmaciej, Susan Stubblefield, Carrie Zastrow for Judy Swanson, Maggie Towle, Patrick Troup, Jean Underwood, Mary Vincent Franco

Discussion Topics:

- Review of purpose, mission & vision
- Review of schedule draft 6.15.07
- **Convocation** start time still needs to be discussed.
 - Desire to have it earlier (5pm) to include faculty and staff and be mindful of other college department obligations (i.e., faculty orientations) and a desire to have it later to be attentive to the stress and emotion involved in moving into a residence hall for both students and parents (and staff), rushing the process may not be good and some students may then chose to not attend Convocation if they do not feel settled.
 - Decision on start time was postponed to the fall in order to collect more information from faculty on how they would participate in a later Convocation and from students on how to meet their needs during move-in.
- **Student Leader Training Committee Update:**
 - Two meetings since last Advisory meeting. Suggested groups should be consistent, reviews advantages/disadvantages of potential grouping of small groups, groups that have major schedule conflicts (band, athletes...) would be grouped on their own, commuter groups should be smaller than residence hall groups. Advocate for larger groups with two leaders than smaller groups with one leader. Will need to have extra leaders for staffing and to cover dropouts.
 - Could use portal page (content determined by housing) to help students connect with their groups. Commuters could have something similar on their portal page.
 - 90% of Honors students live in Middlebrook and Bailey Hall. Projected Fall 08 enrollment of 600 first-year students. Consider how to program for honors students.
- **Entertainment Committee Update:**
 - Three meetings since last Advisory meeting to determine entertainment highlights in 6.15.07 schedule.
 - Keynote speaker brainstorm:
 - Message is important, focus on community engagement, importance of their college education and future, not a divisive message
 - Select someone recognizable to students, could be common reading author if have book determined, journalist, state or local representative Keith Ellison or Al Franken, someone who's name doesn't polarize the audience, consider those who have earned honorary degrees from the U, get lists of commencement speaker generated from colleges, Walter Bond-U of M basketball player, Adam Erickson-how to succeed in college
 - Could tie keynote to RNC – Jon Stewart
 - Make sure entertainment attracts many different interests; consider adding arts to Friday night. Need to be mindful of block party and that no alcohol is present at party
 - WW Closing event is great time to incorporate tradition: slideshow presentation of pictures taken throughout WW, turn into a DVD for students to take with them, paint bridge panels-or make that a reunion activity for later in semester. Good to keep exploring.

- Committee exploring Homecoming and how to create more tradition on campus. Maggie Towle can bring WW information to that committee to get more ideas. Entertainment committee & Transitioning Student to College will continue to explore possible traditions as well.
- **College Programming Committee Update:**
 - Credit option is being explored in variety of ways:
 - CBS is willing to incorporate WW into their Nature of Life credit
 - CFANS is exploring how to incorporate WW into their orientation courses
 - Other colleges cannot offer credit, or are still exploring the option
 - Student success course is being explore to offer all students a credit option
 - Messaging matrix was created by Beth & Jenny to assist colleges in determining how and when to send academic messages to students from the time they are confirmed (February 2008) through their first year (May 2009).
 - Common reading committee will convene in July to explore possibility of implementation for Welcome Week 2008 and/or 2009.
- **Finance/Budget/Sponsorship Committee Update:**
 - Consider modifying the enrollment period to start August 27, 2008 in order for fee to be covered by financial aid. If program is not for credit it cannot be covered by financial aid nor included in the cost of attendance.
 - Delicate dance of having one sponsor for Welcome Week. Maybe have five large sponsors that rotate or work to sponsor with Foundation Office and they select each year.
- **Communications Committee Update:**
 - Working with U Relations to explore overall theme/message to connect to Welcome Week
 - FAQ was developed to assist in sharing information about Welcome Week with others.
- **Evaluation & Assessment Committee Update:**
 - Developing an approach to measuring success of Welcome Week: what are naturally occurring pieces of data (10th day numbers, judicial affairs visits, Boynton visits...), what surveys currently exist?, identifying outcomes related to program content, overall program evaluation
 - Considering “leaver’s study” for Fall 2007 to find out why and when students leave and compare to Fall 2008.
- **Other Thoughts/Updates:**
 - In fall, a list of questions could be share with student boards in colleges, housing and other departments for students to gather information from their areas to bring back for planning purposes.
 - Should we create a traditions committee?
 - Start to explore crisis management procedures

Decisions:

- Purpose, Vision & Mission was approved with slight change in purpose to read “and improve graduation rates” instead of “and ideally leading to higher graduation rates”.
- Small groups will be based by living community-residence hall building (random within building) or commuter (possibly breaking down by off-campus/permanent address location).
- Student Leadership Training Committee can move forward with assigning students in groups of 30 with 2 Welcome Week Leaders. This would mean 175 small groups and 350 Welcome Week Leaders.
- Entertainment options as planned in schedule 6.15.07 are approved to move forward and keep exploring.
- Colleges need to have outline of College Day Activities by November 1, 2007. Any programming with budget implications needs to be submitted by July 6, 2007.

- FAQ document was approved with minor changes and can be shared.
- Laura Coffin Koch will email faculty in late September to explore level of interest for Convocation in 2008 as it relates to the timing change. After she receives feedback, we can make a decision about start time.

Next Meeting:

- Wednesday, July 18, 2007: 10am-12pm, 238A Morrill Hall