

Synthesis Team Highlights

1-29-08, 3-4:30 p.m., IP Video

Attendance: Ann Trausch, Lori Sours, Galyn Carlile, Kay Logterman, Paul Fisher, Mary O’Kief, Denise Swafford, Rand Hill, Susan Panisello (on polycom)

- A. Debrief how you think things are going? Item was skipped to focus on item E.
- B. Ground rules were approved:
 - a) Ask for the floor by raising your hand
 - b) No speeches
 - c) Listen to each other
 - d) Suspend judgment when brainstorming
 - e) Turn off cell phones
 - f) Be on time
 - g) Have homework completed
 - h) Be respectful of one another
 - i) Take care not to dominate
 - j) Be committed and supportive of the strategic planning process within RCC and the community

- C. Purpose of Synthesis Team/Questions.

Mary shared with the group that their task was twofold – represent your group but help meld the teams’ discrete work products into one product to be recommended to the Strategic Planning Steering Committee.

- D. Discuss roles – members, facilitators, Rand.

The members will focus on recommending content and vote as needed. The facilitators will contribute to the discussion but do not have a vote. Rand will do the final writing.

- E. Go/No Go Discussion on making changes to the RCC mission, vision, and value statements.

The discussion about the mission reflected what seemed to be expressed at the 1/24 retreat. Specifically, we all like the sentiment of the existing mission statement, but many felt it was too wordy. We took a vote and by a 3:2 margin it was decided to change the mission statement. It was unanimous to change the value statement. We decided to delay working on the vision statement until work on the goals and objectives is done to help give us a better sense of the direction of the college.

- F. If Go, review and select words and phrases you like from each statement.

Each IP site underlined words and phrases they liked and this was sent to Rand.

Mission: everyone liked the version drafted by Team A (“Through teaching and service, RCC’s mission is to empower people to enrich their lives and reach their goals”). The word “diversity” was discussed and it might be appropriate to put under values. Some people liked the idea of including “economic force.” Paul mentioned that a mission statement should tell who we are, what we do, and who benefits. **There was other input and Mary has asked Rand to send this information to her for the files, if possible.**

Values: most people liked at least part of the values developed by D team such as integrity, respect, innovation, and stewardship with the addition of others like courage, diversity, and possibly excellence. The definition for stewardship should express the idea of guardianship. **Again, Mary has asked Rand for your notes.**

G. Next steps, next meeting

1) Next meetings:

Tuesday, 3/11, 3-5 p.m., TRC, Rm 184

Tuesday, 3/18, 3-5, RWC, L2

2) Draft selections for mission & values from Rand by Monday, 2/4, by noon. Votes to Mary by Wed., 2/6, by noon.