

TO: Campus Community

FROM: Selase W. Williams, Provost

RE: Update on Strategic Planning

The Strategic Planning Steering Committee has been working diligently, in collaboration with the Pappas Group, to draft the University Strategic Plan, 2007-2012. It has reviewed the input it has received from the November 17<sup>th</sup> Town Hall meeting and subsequent meetings with key committees, including the Cabinet. On January 19, 2007 the Committee met for an entire day, revising the Mission Statement, aligning Strategic Initiatives with Overarching Goals, and reviewing other sections of the full Plan. We have now given our latest advice to the Pappas Group, who will edit the language to put it into one voice.

The Committee anticipates that a pre-final draft of the Plan, with all of its component parts, will be ready for distribution by the end of this week or early next week. That document will be sent to the campus community electronically, with hard copies being made available for those who do not have easy access to computers. A Town Hall meeting is scheduled for March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1:00-3:00 PM. Subsequent to that meeting, members of the Committee will, again, visit with key committees on campus to discuss this pre-final draft. Once we have taken into account any new insights and input that we receive, we will produce the final draft.

Although it would be impossible for the Committee to represent each and every view and perspective in the University Strategic Plan, we are confident that the Plan, even in draft form, addresses the major needs of the campus and establishes a strategic direction for the campus. It is bold. It is balanced. And, it is realistic.

Discussions are afoot about how we might best assess the support for the University Strategic Plan. That will be important to demonstrate the community commitment to achieving the goals of the Plan.

I want to personally invite you to the Town Hall meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss this very important document and to learn about the steps that will be taken to ensure its implementation.