
From: Maggie Crowson Parker
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 8:27 AM
To: Barbara A. Biesecker; Annie Carlson Welch; Jennifer Lauren Leyting; Susan Sanchez; Elizabeth St.Pierre; Jeanette Ella Taylor; Janet Westpheling; Kelsey Grace Wohlford; Yuag Anil Shaparia
Cc: David E Shipley
Subject: UC Strategic Planning Committee - October 13 Meeting
Attachments: strategic planning memo to Provost on 9 4.docx

Good Morning UC Strategic Planning Committee,

Please see the memo below from the Chair, David Shipley.

Thank you,
Maggie

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Memorandum

To: Strategic Planning Committee
From: David Shipley
Date: October 3, 2023
Re: Agenda for our Zoom meeting at 10 am on October 13

Attached is a memo I sent to the Provost in early September after our meeting on August 31. The Provost has raised the possibility of a two-year extension for the 2025 Strategic Plan with the Deans and the Vice Presidents who report to him. He emailed me several days ago to say that “there is very strong support for your proposal.” I have also talked to several people in the President’s office and they also like the proposal.

Yesterday Adam Lawrence confirmed my recollection that the 2025 Strategic Plan was presented to the Executive Committee and the Council as an Information Item at meetings in September 2019. There was no voting. Accordingly, what I’d like to do in our meeting on October 13, in addition to approving the minutes for our August 31 meeting, is for us to vote to make a formal recommendation to the Executive Committee and then University Council that the 2025 Strategic Plan be extended two years. We will present this recommendation as an Information Item. The President will be the final approval of our formal recommendation.

In advance of our meeting on October 13 I will draft our recommendation for the two-year extension that will be very similar to the attached memo that I sent to the Provost.

See you on October 13. Remember that we will be meeting with Ryan Nesbit at 10:30 on November 13.

Memorandum

To: Provost Jack Hu
From: Professor David Shipley
Date: September 4, 2023
Re: Extending the University's 2025 Strategic Plan

It was good to see you in the President's sky-suite at the game Saturday evening, and I am glad we had a chance to talk about some University business while we were there – the 2025 Strategic Plan.

As you know, I chair the University Council's Strategic Planning Committee. The committee's duties include advising and consulting with the President and the faculty in the establishment, monitoring and revision of the Strategic Plan of the University.

The committee met by Zoom on August 31st and discussed whether to recommend a two-year extension of the current plan. I told the committee that I would ask you for feedback on extending the plan. You said that you would be meeting with the Deans and VPs this week, and that you would bring up my committee's consideration of a two-year extension.

Here is the rationale for an extension.

The 2025 plan became effective in January 2020 when it was presented by the President in his annual State of the University address.

We are now in the plan's fourth year (2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023) and it will end on December 31, 2024.

The COVID pandemic started in March 2020 and it had a dramatic impact on the University's operations for the rest of the Spring Semester of 2020 and the entire 2020-21 AY.

In many respects, we were not back to sort of normal until last year, the 2022-23 AY. You might say that we lost two years of normal operations.

Based on the time it took to prepare the current 2025 plan, in order to draft a plan for 2030, it will be necessary to form a new campus-wide strategic planning committee this fall (November 2023).

This new campus-wide committee would be charged with drafting a new plan that would launch in January 2025. All the University's schools, colleges and units that prepared 2025 plans would then have to prepare their own 2030 plans.

The basic question is whether UGA is ready to engage in another round of long-range planning starting next semester or would it make sense to extend the current plan for two years and delay the next round of planning until 2026?

For me, this is an easy question to answer. I was on the law school's strategic planning committee before the Pandemic. Starting in March 2020 I learned how to change to hybrid teaching. I did hybrid teaching to big classes through the 20-21 and 21-22 AYs. I had a Zoom option in my 22-23 classes. I hope that my teaching in-person without a mask and without Zoom during the current semester is the new normal. Bottom line – I would like a couple years of normal operations before another round of long-range planning.

Extending the current plan will not be a problem for SACS according to Maggie Parker and Alan Aycock.

I think it is fair to say that my committee is in favor of an extension.

Please share this with all the schools, colleges and units that report to you.

I look forward to hearing from you.