



Susan Traverso
Provost and Senior Vice President
Board Report
January 2013

Strategic Initiatives and Activities

Strategic Planning

- Institutional Strategic Planning Committee appointed by the president, co-chaired by Provost/Sr. Vice President and Vice President of the Faculty Assembly. Membership include: Rick Bailey, Melody Bitkoff, Chris Bucher, Kurt DeGoede, Nancy Florey, Jason Halberstadt, Ron Heasley, Kyle Kopko, Fletcher McClellan, Peggy McFarland, Debra Murray, Barbara Randazzo, Tracy, Sadd, Michael Silberstein, Laura Stine, Susan Traverso, and BethAnn Zambella.
- Committee has issued a mid-year progress report (posted to the full Board). That report outlines the progress on specific action items and recommends strategic investments in programs that can have fairly immediate impact on enrollment.

Inclusive Excellence (SP 3.1.1, 1.5.1, 1.5.2)

- The Office of Diversity organized a week-long celebration of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, including a keynote lecture by scholar and activist, Angela Davis.
- Human Resources reported to the Strategic Planning Implementation Committee on current recruiting practices; additional work needed to establish plans for ensuring inclusive excellence in hiring practices.

Prestigious Scholarships (SP 1.2.1)

- Six student applicants to Fulbright programs; two advanced as finalists.
- One application to the Davies-Jackson Scholarship program reached the semi-finalist stage but was not funded.
- One application to the Gates Cambridge, but not advanced to the interview stage.
- Two students have been nominated for Goldwater Scholarships and will be applying this month.

Interfaith Initiative (SP 1.4.3)

- The Interfaith Youth Core consultants completed their assessment and submitted a report. Recommendations will be presented to the Strategic Planning Implementations Committee and considered in the budget process.

Young Center Expansion and Archive

- Program and space planning completed on both the proposed expansion of the Young Center and the creation of an archival space in the lower level of the High Library. Conceptual images created to support fund-raising.
- Drafted case statement; initial conversations with prospective donors initiated.

Cultural Events

- The Leffler Lecture, to be delivered by Marianne Wright Edelman, was postponed due to weather, re-scheduled for March 20.
- 2012-13 Faculty Scholarship Series featured Professor Gene Ann Behrens in October. Professor and Dean of Faculty Fletcher McClellan will present on “Barack Obama and the 2012 Presidential Election in Political Time” on January 29.

Facility Planning and Construction

- Planning is underway for approved priority projects: Gible, Phase II, Steinman (E-Media Center), and Thompson roof replacement.
- Steinman Foundation will fund \$150,000 for E-Media Center.
- Planning and funding strategies continue for next three priority projects: Nicarry, Thompson Gym locker room renovations, and “Fab Lab” for Engineering.
- Planning Committee for the proposed Center for Sports, Fitness, and Wellness appointed. Marianne Calenda and Dave Dentler will co-chair.

Highlights from areas reporting to the Provost:

Office of Sponsored Research and Programs (SP 3.4.1)

- Currently supporting 17 funded programs (\$445,000), 4 applications are pending (\$1,363,600); two applications not funded; 6 proposals in progress.
- Developing a Summer Research Program proposal, in support of Strategic Plan.
- Selected PIVOT, a grant search program.
- Submitted application for new Indirect Cost Recovery rate to HHS.
- Continued work with Personnel Council on IP policy.

Center for Global Understanding and Peace (SP 1.4.1)

- Organized a Ware Seminar on the conflicts in Syria, including presentations by Joyce Davis, Oya Dursun-Ozkanca and John B. Craig.
- Launching activities funded by the federal grant, including Teaching Japan conference and NGO conference.
- Organizing book groups and other activities connected with the Ware Lecture in April (2011 Nobel Peace Prize winner Leymah Gbowee).

Center for Community and Civic Engagement

- Presented information session at Homecoming.
- Organized a series of programs related to Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week in November.
- Piloting Community Engagement certification program established in collaboration with the Education Department.
- Completed new Community-Based Learning handbook for faculty to support the integration of service-learning opportunities into courses.
- Activated Student Service Tracking on Jay Web.

Young Center

- Completed 5-year plan for center and presented to Strategic Planning Implementation Committee (SP 1.7.2)
- Completed program and space planning for enlargement of the Young Center, including an archival and special collections space in High Library (SP 1.7.3)
- Hosted Dr. Holmes Morton, founder of the Clinic for Special Needs as the Durnbaugh lecturer in November.
- Hosted delegation of Vietnamese professors from VNU University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Hanoi on October 15.

Honors Program

- Compiling self-study in preparation for an external review in February. External reviewers will be from Columbia College (SC) and Shippensburg University.
- Honors student and two faculty members presented at the National Collegiate Honors Council Conference in November on the College's activities in the President's Interfaith Community Service Campus Challenge.
- Offered grants to several honors students to support field trips related to their coursework.
- 152 students enrolled in the honors program.

High Library

- Taught 63 library sessions for approximately 1,050 students during the fall semester, including sections of FY seminars and other academic classes.
- Expanding library collection in Asian Studies with support from the UISFL grant funds.
- New library logo developed with the Office of Marketing and Communications.
- Hosted faculty show "Mind How the Sun goes: A Folktale of the Maine Island," a book and art exhibit by Lou Schellenberg, Associate Professor of Art Emerita, October and November.
- Continued strong demand for laptop lending program; 16 new laptops replaced 2008 models.

Information Technology Services (ITS)

- Completed a five-year plan, including action items identified in the College's Strategic Plan; presented the plan and progress on action items to the Strategic Plan Implementation Committee.
- Created a new Instructional Technology Advisory Group and successfully recruited and hired a new Instructional Technologist who will support on-line learning, integration of technology in classroom, e-portfolio, and staff and faculty training.
- Implemented a new tracking system to allow students to log their community service hours, important for reporting requirements of our Carnegie classification.
- Created new on-line mini courses to prepare students who would like to take Microsoft Office Specialist exams.
- Continued roll-out of advanced features of the new phone system; migrated all college cell-phones from Blackberry to i-phones; completed report on Campus Blue Light phones.
- Developed a new set of video tutorials for staff training; considering strategies for increasing participation at ITS trainings.

Associate Academic Dean/Registration and Records

- Created summer 2013 schedule, increased number of courses and from a wider range of departments; class-based, hybrid, and on-line.
- Piloted two new winter term courses with good response from students.
- Created basic framework for the new Institutional Research web site.
- Presented several reports to the Strategic Planning Implementation Committee and completed several action items.

Restructuring of functions in Dean of Students responsibilities

- Some continued re-assignments of responsibilities was required with Tracy Sadd continuing to carry additional leadership responsibilities as the Dean of Student transitions back from medical leave; reassignments also arranged in Residence Life while Assistant Dean Alison Bridgeman is on Family Leave.

Provost's Professional Activities

- Facilitated a retreat for the Lancaster Symphony Board on the roles and responsibilities of governing boards.
- Continued service on boards of the Lancaster Symphony Orchestra and the Pennsylvania Academy of Art and Design.
- Chair of the Academic Council of BCA.
- Attended the Council of Independent Colleges annual meeting of CAOs.
- Presented at the Middle States Annual meeting on the educational assessment program now established at Elizabethtown. Panel also included Rick Basom, Kristi Kneas, and Brian Newsome.