



## GEAC Meeting

December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

11-12:30pm

**Attendance:** Anne Dahlman, Nancy Drescher, Jacy Fry, Erica Johnson, Mohamed Diab, Laura Yin, Jenni Lampinen, Anna Ochs, Olga Nelson, Paolo Infante, Elizabeth Finsness, and Aaron Deris.

Notes by Brittany McKibben

**Welcome** (Interim Dean Dahlman)

Introduced new Executive Assistant, Brittany McKibben.

**University's Next Strategic Plan- Need our voice on campus**

*President Inch' 5 Strategic Theme Areas:*

- Ensuring a welcoming, equitable, and inclusive university
- Caring for health and well-being
- Focusing our resources
- Offering an exceptional student experience
- Serving students, managing enrollment

**Discussion Prompts from VP Akey to be used as part of strategic planning:** (Anne will e-mail these out, please take a few minutes to email her back with your thoughts).

Consider current changes occurring within and outside higher education. In what ways might higher education be different ten years from now?

How might Minnesota State University, Mankato need to be different ten years from now to ensure continued success?

What themes presented at Meet and Confer in October (summary developed from the campus Communities channel) do you believe are most critical for us to advance on in the next seven years to be a vibrant university a decade from now?

What is missing from the themes that were presented at Meet and Confer in October (summary developed from the campus Communities channel) that needs to be added to the dialogue?

**Updates from Centers:**

- There is a new RFP- Request for Faculty-led Proposals program. This needs to be in place before there is any international travel.
- First face to face delegation meeting in over two years took place with Kisii University from Kenya on our campus last month. They are very happy with our campus and feel it is very warm, and feel the students are doing great in their academics and that they are being supported.
- There are grant opportunities from Global Education, opportunities to teach abroad etc. What's the best way to communicate with people – in general we know that newsletters on campus

aren't opened by readers (less than 10% of people are opening and reading the newsletters)  
What can we do to get people involved?

- Extra winter gear in adult sizes- Collecting coats, hats and mittens. Garment rack will be available on Monday December 6<sup>th</sup>. Drop off at Kearney so they can provide these to international students who've never experienced cold before.

### **Updates and next steps from ACE Internationalization Lab**

The Lab is a 15-18-month campus-wide self-study and planning process to identify our strengths and areas of untapped potential for future growth as a globally connected university. The project is expected to conclude in Spring 2023.

#### *Timeline:*

The Lab is divided into the following stages and activities:

- **Fall 2021:** Setting up campus lab structure and identifying guiding questions; Monthly work group meetings commence
- **Spring 2022:** Engaging campus stakeholders in discovery, fact finding and self-assessment
- **Summer-Fall 2022:** Analyzing feedback and findings; Drafting Global Education Strategic Plan 2030
- **Spring 2023:** Finalizing Global Education Strategic Plan 2030

#### ***Work Group #1: "Global Ed Partnering with Faculty: Innovating around Curriculum and Partnerships"***

Erica Johnson & Paolo Infante

#### ***Work Group #2: "Connecting the Dots: Creating a Student-Focused Global Learning Campus"*** *International Students*

Jacy Fry & Olga Nelson

#### ***Work Group #3: "Increasing Opportunities for Education Abroad and Away"***

Anna Ochs & Thomas Carlson

#### ***Work Group #4: "Globally Connected Regional Leader: Next Strategic Directions"***

Anne Dahlman & Laura Yin

### **Other discussion topics:**

When it comes to travel, how are you navigating this area? Not many in the system are sending large amounts of students, it doesn't seem to be a priority. *Faculty traveling needs to be a priority.* Gather testimonies from deans around importance of traveling and why we need to keep moving forward through the pandemic. Covid-19 isn't going away, and we need to be more nimble in the face of challenges to keep up our partnerships. Students are looking at different colleges due to them having travel opportunities. Please be strategic on how we approach the conversation with our campus and above. We're being critical and mindful about traveling and we want to do this safely as well as mitigate risk while still engaging.