MEETING MINUTES
Challenges and Opportunities Subcommittee
Thursday, January 21, 2022
1:00 PM


Welcome and Review of Charge:

The subcommittee members were informed that several people will be unable to join the meeting today, so permission to record this zoom meeting was requested and granted. The PowerPoint presentation and agenda was shared onscreen.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Brian Payne apologized for just sending the minutes out this morning. The subcommittee members were asked if they were comfortable with approving them today or if they would like to wait until next week. They were also asked to provide any amendments, feedback to the minutes in the chat or personally to Melva Grant for record keeping purposes. A few of the subcommittee members provided comments that they did not have additions for corrections in the chat. As a result, the minutes were approved.

Everyone was informed about a closed captioning feature that will automatically transcribe the meeting information and to be saved for future reference. The feature will be added to assist with creating the minutes.

The subcommittee was informed that Genny Conwell was unable to attend this meeting, but she will be provided with the zoom transcript and recording of the meeting to produce the minutes. Today's minutes will be provided to everyone on next week once they are available.

Timeline, Assumptions, Process:

A reminder about the charge from President Hemphill during the last meeting was provided. This subcommittee was tasked with identifying challenges and opportunities within Old Dominion University, and to also look at the entire higher education landscape. This information will be shared with the steering committee and then our recommendations will be distributed to other subcommittees and will assist the other subcommittees with starting their processes.
A detailed overview of today’s agenda items and meeting schedule was provided. A reminder was provided that President Hemphill requested the report on Monday, March 14th, but the goal is to complete all work by the last meeting day on Friday, March 11th. The floor was opened for questions or additions regarding this. There were no questions asked or comments provided.

Subcommittee members were also informed that Brian Payne and Melvin Grant discussed some assumptions that will guide this process and a PowerPoint Presentation with this information was shared onscreen.

It was mentioned that subcommittee members were selected for the value that they will bring to discussions during these meetings and that all voices matter. The subcommittee was informed that what they are doing is more along the lines of assessment and not science and they were asked to do their best to focus on the best empirical way to complete the work.

They were reminded to provide and an equal number of challenges and opportunities, to provide solutions or suggestions when pointing out problems, to think about our strategic plan while crafting these challenges and opportunities, and to look at current realities that can help propel us into the future.

There was open discussion about assumptions and assessment versus science. Suggested assumptions was requested to be sent to Brian Payne or Melva Grant during the meeting. The floor was opened for discussion and some of the assumptions were added to the list.

**Review of Internal Focus Groups Questions:**

Detailed information and the purpose of an exercise from an internal focus group was provided. The subcommittee members were asked to participate in this exercise during the meeting and there was open discussion about the information from this exercise.

The subcommittee members were informed that there were 14 focus groups. A high-level overview of the information from the internal focus groups was provided and some of the comments and feedback was shared onscreen. There was an in-depth discussion about the comments, responses to the questions, themes from the focus groups, and suggested themes provided by the subcommittee members.

**Review of External Focus Groups Questions:**

The subcommittee members were informed that the external focus groups have been scheduled and will begin on Monday. The results should be available to in two weeks. An update on the RSVPs was also provided.

There was an open discussion about the questions, the overall flow, and who the target audience will be for these external focus groups. Suggested changes was requested and provided.

**Discussion of Subgroups and Domains**

The subcommittee members were informed that feedback and suggestions was received for each of these subgroup areas. They were asked to pay attention to equity and inclusion and ensure that this is a part our domain, to focus on specific aspects related to faculty and staff, and the need to revisit our Quality of University life discussions.
It was proposed that Brian Payne and Melva Grant work together to look at the agreed upon subgroups provided by the subcommittee members and select three from this list. Everyone will work together to develop subgroup assignments.

There was open discussion about the need to split students into undergraduate and graduate categories. It was decided to continue with the six subgroups already identified and ensure that graduates students are included with the student success and research groups. Brian Payne and Melva Grant will also see if there is an opportunity to add a seventh subgroup.

The domain areas were discussed, and the top areas provided on last week were provided onscreen. Subcommittee members were informed that they will need to make a decision about these domain areas by the end of next Friday.

Brian Payne and Melvin Grant created the groups for the subcommittee members. Everyone was informed that they will need to start talking about how the groups will operationalize on next Friday and time will also be set aside for subgroups members to start organizing and planning.

**Discussion of Data Needs:**

There was open discussion about insight and data received from different stakeholders. It was requested to get numbers to assist with complementing the kinds of opinions and thoughts received from these stakeholders, from the Office of Admissions, and the Priority Prioritization program.

**Review of information in Teams:**

Subcommittee members were informed that hard data, marketing reports, and today’s PowerPoint Presentation will be saved in the designated Microsoft Teams folder and they were asked to review this information. They were also informed that the meeting video recording, chat, and transcription will be emailed to everyone.

**Meeting Adjourned**