Minutes of the Values Work Group Meeting  
February 18, 2022 at 1:00 pm, via Zoom

Attending: September Sanderlin, Tom Socha, Mariana Szklo-Coxe, Dylan Wittkower, Jared Hoernig, Frank Scaringello, Konstantin Cigularov, Jamie Colwell, Mya Godwin.

Housekeeping Items
This group will continue to meet on Friday’s at 1:00 until the task of writing values is completed.

Values vs Mission Statement
The group discussed the difference between the Mission Statement and the Values of the University. The mission will include all the great things we do, whereas the values are our guiding beliefs and principles. Our values are who we are, our core beliefs.

Value statements: Ideas and Wordsmithing
Various ideas, phrases, and words were discussed for crafting statements that define ODU’s values. Some considerations:
- There was discussion on innovation and creativity; we capitalize on what we do; and academic, creative, and research pursuits.
- Try to use less mention of specific areas and stay more general (if one area is mentioned, then all areas will want to also be mentioned).
- More discussion on ideas/terms such as social mobility, economic demand, collaboration, expanding our boundaries, and changes that may happen during this next strategic plan.
- The group reviewed and revised some specific statements/wording to align with values more closely. Suggestion: State who we are and then provide examples.
- Some phrases that were agreeable to most: innovation comes from collaboration, preparing the next generation of innovators to address tomorrow’s challenges, creating new ways of thinking/a new vision, we value the outcomes of innovation, innovation is being driven by cross-fertilization (however, we could do a better job of communication between departments).
- There was discussion on excellence as a value, the pursuit of a higher standard, achievement and aspirational goals. What are we invested in, what are our life experiences? Also, striving to learn and excel; thriving on challenges; feeling proud of our accomplishments; aiming high and dedication to our work and values.
- The group discussed adding something about not being afraid of failure, or perhaps that we are resilient and embrace challenges.

Next Steps
Continue sharing ideas within the group and writing. Think of what label best describes a value and then provide a description of what that means, and perhaps provide some examples. The goal is to provide a draft by Wednesday so that feedback can be provided in next Friday’s meeting.