

A brief summary of the Strategic Planning Committee for AY 16-17 and AY 17-18

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By virtue of being elected Chair of the Faculty, I was a member of the Strategic Planning Committee for each of the last two years. The committee operates with any official minutes. This document is an overview of what the committee considered. Most months the committee met twice throughout both years.

The Fall 2016 semester primarily consisted of a series of information sharing presentations by the various administrators that serve on the committee. These presentations informed all of the committee members about the size and scope of the operations of the various administrative units. Fall meeting time was also used to discuss the Credo and Dartlet efforts.

The Spring 2017 semester was filled with “Vegas rules” discussion of the promise, which had been discussed during the Board of Trustees retreat in Florida. The committee offered suggestions on how to expand the circle of those to be exposed to the promise and to be held captive by the rules of silence. Eventually, the promise was changed to the commitment. The roll-out for the announcement was eventually pushed beyond the end of that academic year. The end of the semester saw the Strategic Planning Committee hosting an open faculty meeting on seeking feedback on the Strategic Map and the Commitment.

Academic Year 2017-18 saw the work of the Strategic Planning Committee transition to working almost exclusively on the strategic map that had arisen from the Credo work from the summer on 2016 with modest changes from the myriad of listening sessions held in AY 16-17. The committee continued to meet twice each month, and one of those meetings was typically held jointly with the administrative council. The committee agreed to propose a change in its faculty membership to have one representative from each of the four curricular areas and two faculty at-large. In the Spring 2018, some time was devoted to alternate models for sabbatical leaves. Discussion talked about how long the funded sabbatical should be, and what criteria should be met to be eligible for a sabbatical leave.