

## Long Range Planning Task Force

December 8, 1998

The charge to the Academic Long Range Planning Task Force included the following questions. Our progress in answering the questions is noted below each question.

1. How should faculty participate in academic long range planning?
  - There needs to be communication between the divisions for any planning. One existing Mechanism is the Chair/Deans. Faculty input in other ways should be encouraged. Long range planning should not be merely a matter of offering courses that faculty are interested in teaching. Courses need to reflect the needs of our students and the community. Since future needs are likely to involve alternate schedules, faculty will need to be involved in the planning in order to have a commitment to the different hours and course forms involved.
  
2. Is there a need for long range planning of the academic component of the university?
  - Yes – definitely!
  
3. Is there long range planning for the academic component of the university?
  - Yes – Currently some aspects of long range planning are addressed through Divisions, Chairs/Deans, Curriculum Committee, and the Long Range Planning Committee, Workload Committee.
  
4. Is there a place in our committee structure to make, implement, and review long range academic plans?
  - The Long Range Planning Committee is a logical place for some of this planning. All planning should address, in some way, academics at IUE. We also need input from external relations and others in the university who are in contact with the community.
  
5. How do we see the academic component of this campus in twenty years?
  - Responds to needs of our students for courses that fit into their work schedules and degree plans. (For example: Trimesters to shorten commitment to a schedule. Distance education, weekend programs...)
  - Focus on accountability, flexibility, and assessing possible plans.
  - We need a mechanism to facilitate such elements as multidisciplinary degrees and alternative schedules for classes and for faculty responsibility. We cannot implement weekend courses/programs with full time faculty unless faculty responsibilities during the week can be changed.
  - We need to be willing to foster creativity in developing programs.

- Some suggestions discussed were: combining content and skills courses; moving responsibility for remedial courses to IVY tech; developing a weekend college with credit and non-credit courses as a separate division; and encourage programs such as “WAC – Writing Across the Curriculum”

6. How should we decide what academic programs will be on this campus twenty years from now?

- Not the Academic Long Range Planning Task Force – Might be a faculty and administrative group.
- Needs to involve sharing of resources across divisions and departments. Reduce territoriality and promote collaboration.
- Should be collective rather than compilation of individual unit's members

7. Who will make those decisions?

- One suggestion is to make academic long range planning an important part of divisions and chairs. Divisions would construct plans for their divisions, chairs would be responsible for addressing issues of conflict or interaction between divisional recommendations. (One concern is that such a structure may be limited by constraints within the divisions or administratively over controlled.)

8. When will decisions be made about the future of the academic component on this campus?

- Not a question that we can answer.

9. Should this task force make these decisions or determine who should make these decisions?

- No – as a task force, it should only make recommendations of what to do. Assuming that long range planning is important, the allocation of individuals making the decisions should represent the constituencies involved.