Planning Commission Initial Meeting
Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012

The UIndy Planning Commission met for the first time on Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012. At that time, the group accepted President Manuel’s Mission Statement and proposed Ground Rules.

Mission Statement

The UIndy Planning Commission is a representative body that advises the President on matters of University direction by helping to prioritize initiatives of the University. The UPC will deal with macro-level question and initiatives. It will attempt to be the entity at the University that is responsible for connecting the planning and budgeting processes.

Ground Rules

1. The Planning Commission will be focused on the “good of the whole” rather than individual agendas. We will leave our departmental hats at the door.
2. There are no preconceived outcomes.
3. There won't be perfect alignment between the Planning Commission and budget process, but the work of the Commission will inform the budget process, particularly in future years. (Alignment will not be strong this year because of timing; 2013-14 budget development begins in January 2013.)

Presentations and Discussion

Mark Weigand and Deborah Balogh led an in-depth conversation about financial aid budgets and allocations. While specific strategy cannot be shared publicly, the group began its education by looking into the econometric model we use for delivering our aid.

A suggestion was made to secure a professional facilitator for future discussions. Dr. Manuel will investigate options.

It was recommended that the University have intentional conversations about diversity by creating a task force on Diversity in Intellectual and Campus Life. Nominations for membership on this task force should be made to Lara Mann.

President Manuel asked the Planning Commission members to read three books, which he will provide: *The Innovator’s Dilemma*, by Clayton M. Christensen; *The Rise of the Creative Class Revisited*, by Richard Florida; and *The Good Great Place*, by Ray Oldenburg. These books will create a common framework for future discussions.

Future meetings will involve discussions with a sitting president from another university; representatives from Johnson Grossnickle Associates, the consulting firm that is assessing UIndy’s development operations; and a chief financial officer from another university. These meetings will take place during the beginning of the spring term.