Assessment of Listening Tour Input

Action required: SPC members are asked to:
• Discuss the draft process for assessing the listening tour input

1. Introduction

Our overall game plan is to review and revise the current vision and mission with a mind toward the development of goals, actions and performance measures that realize the revised vision and mission. Moreover, all that we generate needs to be in support of the University of Hawaii system strategic outcomes and performance measures.

In our Charge, the Chancellor has asked that we review and revise the mission and vision statements of UH Hilo based on evidence from the pre-planning stage, UH System plans and policies, and other relevant information.

To accomplish this all committee members need to be familiar with a considerable amount of information. First, I would encourage every committee member to re-read the current UH system mission and purpose (see below) and strategic outcomes and performance measures document (available at http://www.hawaii.edu/ovppp/uhplan/SOPM.pdf). Then also remind yourselves of UH Hilo’s current vision and mission statements (see below).

Second, Chancellor Straney, through Sian Millard, has gathered a large body of ideas, suggestions and other input from a variety of stakeholder groups via a series of listening tours and a consultation survey. This information is available to us via the preplanning resource located at http://www.hilo.hawaii.edu/strategicplan/preplanning.php. Also available are links to key quantitative data sources that summarize UH Hilo’s current position in areas such as graduation, enrollment and employment. This data is available at http://www.hilo.hawaii.edu/strategicplan/data.
In this first phase of work our committee needs to assimilate this material in order to abstract from it a number of common themes and issues. These themes will help us begin to form initial ideas about the key strategic issues facing UH Hilo and will provide the foundation for the revised vision and mission. Due to the large quantity of information that has to be evaluated, we need a systematic and efficient method of assessment.

2. Exercise

This exercise focuses on the listening tour information. Approximately 30 listening tour sessions were conducted. Sian developed a report from each session, with all reports following the same format. Each report is comprised of five sections of input regarding UH Hilo: strengths, weaknesses, challenges, priorities, and current goals.

I am going to assign each of you to a small working group of three members each. Each group will be responsible for reporting back to the committee on approximately five or six listening tour reports. Group reports should consist of the following:

1) For each section in the reports (e.g., strengths, weaknesses, etc.) integrate and synthesize a ‘master’ list of common themes/issues, reconciling duplicated input wherever possible.
2) For each section prioritize the themes/issues as measured by the number of times that theme/issue was mentioned across reports.
3) Select the top five themes from each section’s prioritized list to bring forward.
4) Finally, recognizing that prevalence does not always equal importance, each group should identify two themes from outside the top five for each section (i.e., outliers) that the group agrees are important enough to bring into the discussion.

All group reports will be due at our Dec. 1st meeting. There was also a companion survey to the listening tour for those who couldn’t attend the sessions. Sian will synthesize the input from the companion survey and bring the results to the Dec. 1st meeting. At that meeting the committee will discuss and synthesize all reports into a single list. That list, along with the other relevant evidence, will provide the foundation for our development of UH Hilo’s vision and mission.

We will take the results of our discussions back to our constituencies for further consultation and feedback in December and January (details still to be determined). These results will be presented to the campus in the form of broad directions. Following the consultations we will draft the vision and mission statements.

In the assignment of individuals to groups I went through the list of committee members alphabetically. Following are group assignments.
Group | Members | Listening Tour Reports
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1 | Thora, Kainoa, Jim | 1st – 6th: Development Office through Alumni Association
2 | Dee, Mazen Maria | 6th – 12th: Chancellor’s Advisory Board through CAS Social Sciences Division
3 | Jackie, Gail, Barry | 13th – 18th: CAS Humanities Division through Hanakahi Council
4 | Tracey, Karen, Marcia, | 19th – 24th: Clerical / Secretarial Staff through CAS Natural Sciences Division
5 | Elizabeth, Pila, Harry, Errol | 25th – 30th: Resident, Employee and Athlete Students through College of Business and Economics

**UH System Mission and Purpose (Quoted from BoR Policy on Planning)**
The primary mission of the University of Hawai‘i system is to provide environments in which faculty and students can discover, examine critically, preserve and transmit the knowledge, wisdom and values that will help ensure the survival of the present and future generations with improvement in quality of life.

In carrying out that mission it is the basic purpose of the University of Hawai‘i to afford all qualified people of Hawai‘i an equal opportunity for quality college and university education at both undergraduate and graduate levels.

As the only provider of higher education in Hawai‘i, the University embraces its unique responsibilities to the indigenous people of Hawai‘i and to Hawai‘i’s indigenous language and culture. To fulfill the responsibility, the University ensure active support for the participation of Native Hawaiians at the University and supports vigorous programs of study and support for the Hawaiian language, history and culture

**UH Hilo’s current Mission statement (Quoted from UH Hilo 2002-2010 strategic plan)**
The University of Hawai‘i at Hilo is a comprehensive, primarily baccalaureate institution on the island of Hawai‘i, offering a rigorous education in a caring, personalized atmosphere. As a regional, state-supported university, UH Hilo serves students from Hawai‘i Island and from around the state. Additionally, UH Hilo enrolls students from the U.S. mainland and from many other nations, especially from Asia and the Pacific islands.

The primary mission of UH Hilo is to offer high quality undergraduate liberal arts and professional programs. Selected graduate degree programs are also offered where need warrants and the university has strong expertise. UH Hilo offers "hands-on" learning, service, and leadership opportunities and especially encourages close student-faculty interaction and collaboration on research projects. The university encourages theoretical and applied research, and benefits Hawai‘i Island and the state through resource centers, community partnerships, continuing education, and distance learning programs.
Hawai‘i’s incomparable natural and cultural environment serves as a learning laboratory, the setting for many teaching, research, and service activities. The university also offers unusually rich opportunities for intercultural exchange, since we are located in the most ethnically diverse county in the U.S. and attract students from around the world. Providing an environment that is responsive to the needs of a diverse student population is central to the UH Hilo philosophy. As the university's housing capacity grows, increasing numbers of students will benefit from immersion in our stimulating, diverse, and supportive residential environment.

**UH Hilo’s current Mission as set out in the UH System Board of Regents Policy**  
(Quoted from BoR Policy on Planning)  
University of Hawai‘i at Hilo is a comprehensive, primarily baccalaureate institution with a regional mission, offering baccalaureate degrees in the liberal arts, agriculture, nursing and business, as well as selected master’s degrees.

**UH Hilo’s current Vision statement**  
(Quoted from 2002-2008 UH Hilo Strategic Plan)  
Over the next eight years, the ultimate goal for the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo is to become the premier residential campus in Hawai‘i, while also providing an exemplary education, with aloha, to commuting students, non-traditional students, and distance learners. Already known for our success in Hawaiian language revitalization and for using the island as a learning and research laboratory, UH Hilo will become noted for:

- Academic excellence in liberal arts, professional, and agricultural programs
- A vibrant, enriched campus life
- Leadership in studies of Hawaiian, East Asian, Pacific, and indigenous cultures
- Leadership in studies of the tropical environment
- Active learning in research, internships, and community service
- Scholarship in theoretical and applied areas
- Commitment to community development