



MEETING MINUTES
Mission & Core Values Subcommittee
February 11, 2022
1:00 pm
via Zoom

Members: Sebastian Bawab, Stephen Beebe, Konstantin Cigularov, Laura Cilla, Jamie Colwell, Andrea Dalatri, Karen Eck, Diego Feliciano, Mya Godwin, Julie Hao, Jared Hoernig, Jean Kennedy-Sleeman, Sebastian Kuhn, Donna Meeks, Myles Nixon, September Sanderlin, Karen Sanzo, Frank Scaringello, Tom Socha, Narketta Sparkman-Key, Mariana Szklo-Coxe, Coulson Thomas, Dylan Wittkower

Guest Attendee: Megan Corbett, Institutional Effectiveness & Accreditation Analyst

SACSCOC Discussion

Megan Corbett attended the meeting to discuss the work on the University's Mission Statement and what role SACSCOC will play in any changes. There are two scenarios concerning changes to the Mission Statement:

- If there is a substantive change then this will need to be submitted to SACSCOC. We would need an approval from them before we could adopt the new Mission Statement. The timeline would be to write the prospectus for a July 1 submission in hopes of a January approval. This would also mean that we would not be able to use the new Mission Statement for the University's reaffirmation by SACSCOC. We would use the existing one since the new one would not be approved yet.
- If there are no substantive changes (for example, only making the meaning clearer or better aligned), then we would not need to have SACSCOC approval, and we could then use the new Mission Statement for the upcoming reaffirmation. The self-study report that is written and submitted this September will document what has been done and not what will be done. Any minor edits to the Mission Statement would be included in this report.

The committee concurred that this information is helpful, and at the same time, does not change the charge of the sub-committee. A question was asked concerning making substantive changes, and after discussion the group stated that changes would be made according to what defines the University as it is now. In other words, it is not for this sub-committee to decide whether it is a major change or a minor change; the charge is for the sub-committee to get the Mission Statement right. Then it will be determined later if: a) if the sub-committee has developed an appropriate Mission Statement that correctly describes ODU, perhaps with some edits, and b) does this statement include any substantive changes. It was stated that there will be more to come about the process once the statement is submitted.

Value identification and writing values

Tom Socha did interpretive work and reduced value statements to essential keywords, and the words that connect/overlap are now assimilated into clusters of meanings. From these clusters, the committee can begin writing in smaller groups. Committees should look for central meanings of the various clusters and what makes them unique.

Separating into groups

It was decided to break off into 2 groups: a Mission writing group, and a Values writing group. Committee members should let September Sanderlin and Tom Socha know their preference for which



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group. The groups should meet soon. The mission may take less time than writing the values as there is already a Mission Statement to work with. Discussion was had on whether future meetings would be in-person or zoom; consensus was that meetings would most likely be a hybrid, and that decision would be at the discretion of the workgroup.