

Chapter XIII: STRATEGIC PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP

The 2009 Strategic Planning and Assessment Workshop was held on August 19 and 20. The format was changed to two morning sessions rather than one single full day. Faculty Senate President, Dr. James Guffey, opened the meeting and welcomed attendees. President Darrell Krueger introduced Paul Wagner, Deputy Commissioner of Higher Education, who spoke on “The State of Higher Education in Missouri” focusing on the changing budget and demographic trends.

Provost Paino introduced discussion of Truman’s Core Values. Following breakout sessions, the following values were suggested

2009 Draft Version
(from August 19)

Truman demonstrates dedication to the liberal arts education of our students by

- ❖ Focusing on students and their personal, social, and intellectual growth within a supportive and challenging environment;
- ❖ Cultivating a diverse, engaged community of high achieving students, faculty, and staff;
- ❖ Providing affordable access to an exceptional education;
- ❖ Committing to continuous improvement through assessment;

in order to produce citizens for the intellectual and ethical challenges of the global community.

On the second morning of the workshop Dr. James Cianciola, Assistant Professor of Communication, moderated a session entitled “Student Involvement - A Student Panel Discusses their Truman Experience.” The students answered questions about courses, engagement, and experiences with faculty.

To conclude the Workshop, participants were provided with the proposed changes to the values as well as selected data from the 2008 NSSE. (Full results of those data are available in Chapters VI and XX of the *2008 Assessment Almanac*). Breakout sessions then focused on these issues:

- I) The following questions could be helpful in your discussions:
 1. What is quality? How do we define it? How do we know we have accomplished it?
 2. What makes our majors different and/or better?
 3. What makes our graduates different and/or better?
- II) If time permits, please look at the NSSE data and address the following questions:
 1. What are the most surprising/important NSSE results for Truman?
 2. How do you interpret those findings?
 3. Do you have suggestions for improving our results?

Reports from the breakout sessions covered a wide variety of topics. Some of the themes included focus on alumni accomplishment and student leadership. Faculty representatives in attendance received discipline-specific assessment data within their conference packets.