IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING PROCESS

Frequently Asked Questions

What process was used to develop the membership for the Implementation Planning Committees?
First, all University Presidents, faculty Board representatives, and student Board representatives were asked to serve on committees. Then, where appropriate, members of already existing committees were asked to serve, while other members either volunteered or were recommended to serve by their peers.

How many committees are there?
There are 14 System-level committees (new and already existing), as well as campus committees. Campuses may choose to establish their own committees.

What are the committees focusing on?
The committees are charged with making recommendations for implementation of the goals outlined in each Strategic Direction of the Strategic Plan, and methods for evaluating implementation of those goals. In some cases, multiple committees have been formed to focus on particular areas of a Strategic Direction. For example, Strategic Direction 7 consists of four committees focusing on Centralization (THESIS), Human Resources and Equal Opportunity, Business Operations, and Information Technology.

How long will the committees be working?
The committees began meeting in February 2005 and will continue their work through the Spring of 2006. Full Implementation begins in the Summer of 2006.

Who are the committee members?
Committees are comprised of a diverse members, including faculty, administration, students, and members of the community. For a full listing, see the committee the Implementation Planning document online at: www.maine.edu/spp/impplanningprocess.pdf

Who are the Chairs of the Implementation Committees? How were they selected?
Many of the Chairs volunteered for their positions. Others were asked to serve by Chancellor Westphal, based on their expertise and experience. The Coordinating Chairs are: Strategic Direction 1: Joseph Wood (jswood@maine.edu); Strategic Direction 2, Theodora Kalikow (kalikow@maine.edu); Strategic Direction 3: Cynthia Huggins (chuggins@maine.edu), Gerry Dube (dube@maine.edu); Strategic Direction 4: Thomas Abbott (tabbott@maine.edu), Robert Scott (rscott@maine.edu); Strategic Direction 5: Michael Eckardt (michael.eckardt@maine.edu), Julie Ellis (jellis@maine.edu); Strategic Direction 6: Joseph Westphal (joseph.westphal@maine.edu); Strategic Direction 7: Allen Berger (abberger@maine.edu), Tracy Bigney (bigney@maine.edu); Joanne Yestramski (jly@maine.edu), Richard Pattenaude (pattenu@usm.maine.edu); Strategic Direction 8: Elsa Nunez (elsa.nunez@maine.edu); Robert Kennedy (robert.kennedy@maine.edu), Richard Randall (rrandall@maine.edu); Strategic Direction 9: Joseph Wesphal (joseph.westphal@maine.edu); Richard Cost (rcost@maine.edu)
Who decides whether or not to implement the recommendations made by the committees?
Chancellor Westphal, with the Presidents of the seven Universities, will review the committee recommendations and present his recommendations to the Board of Trustees for final approval.

Will the Implementation Committees actually be implementing the Strategic Plan?
No. The committees are charged with recommending a process for Implementation, including expected outcomes and accountability measures. Full Implementation will take place after the committees have completed their work.

How can I learn more about the Campus-based Implementation committees?
The Presidents of each University have been encouraged to form campus-based committees. Their work will be essential to the success of the Implementation Planning Process. Contact a specific University President’s Office for more information about campus-based committees.

When will Implementation Planning be finished?
The committees will finish their work in Spring 2006, after which implementation will begin. However, some aspects of implementation may take several years to complete, while other areas can be implemented by summer 2006.