

University of Maine System
Board of Trustees Meeting

Zoom Meeting
August 24, 2023

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

Present: Committee Members: Emily Cain, Chair; Barbara Alexander, Donna Loring, and Roget Katz. **Other Trustees:** Valerie Landry **Non-Voting Members:** Jeremy Chubbuck and William Otto **Presidents:** Joan Ferrini-Mundy, Leigh Saufley, Raymond Rice, Joseph McDonnell and Jenifer Cushman **System Staff:** Chancellor Malloy, Kayla Flewelling, Ryan Low, Jeffrey St. John, Carolyn Dorsey, Paul Chan, Jen O’Leary, and Kim Marie-Jenkins.

Trustee Cain, Committee Chair, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. The Clerk performed a roll call of the Committee members present.

Update on Distribution and Socialization

During the June Strategic Planning Committee meeting the distribution and socialization of the Strategic Plan with both internal and external stakeholders was discussed. Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Jeffrey St. John and Director of Strategic Initiatives Jen O’Leary discussed updates regarding statewide distribution and socialization of the Strategic Plan, including work and initiatives completed and begun since the prior committee meeting.

Vice Chancellor Jeffrey St. John reminded the committee that the initial release of the plan occurred in June. The Socialization of the plan is ongoing and will continue to escalate in the fall as faculty, students, staff, and leadership return to campus and will be recruited to work on implementation work groups across the System. The Chancellors Fall Visits will help to socialize the plan and discuss any concerns that arise on campuses, and VC St. John will continue engagement in each campus’ Faculty Senate group to help with discussions on areas of the plan.

The Director of Strategic Initiatives, Jen O’Leary, provided updates regarding socializing and relaying the Strategic Plan with the State of Maine Economic Development Strategy in a strategic partnership that will help both efforts in awareness and relevance. A communication framework draft is currently being developed to align communications both internally and externally regarding the draft to help connect existing work that is ongoing regarding the socialization of the plan.

Additional discussion was held regarding utilizing the Board of Visitors in the socialization and implementation of the Strategic Plan moving forward as they are an integral stakeholder who communicate with community members directly impacted by System and campus initiatives.

Updated Implementation Timeline to include assigned dates for the full plan

Based on discussions had at the June Strategic Planning Committee meeting and subsequent work completed by the Director of the Organizational Effectiveness Kim-Marie Jenkins, Vice

Chancellor Carolyn Dorsey and Vice Chancellor Jeffrey St. John, updated dates within the implementation timeline were discussed and provided in the materials of the committee meeting.

VC Jeffrey St. John reminded the committee on the structure of implementation that is being developed with a steering committee that is staffed by several System Staff members, President Hedeem and USM Provost Frierson and will include, in future, campus faculty and staff members to include all levels of representation in this work to begin moving forward with segments of implementation across the System. This steering committee will report out to the Chancellor, Presidents, the Board, and this committee. Co-Chairs, identified from individual campus leadership, will be assigned to each other 5 commitments of the Strategic Plan, and will oversee the work on each of their areas and report to the steering committee to help target focused outcomes to all stakeholders involved.

The assignment of dates for outcomes in the plan is ongoing with cooperative work with the Chancellor and the Presidents, without getting out ahead of the October 1 deadline reporting date so that all parties are ready to move forward onto the next stage of identifying who is working on what outcome so that the Board will see outcome on two key areas in rapid succession in a coordinated way. The plan is also being grouped into four goals/areas that are in the scope of each Vice Chancellor's expertise so that each Vice Chancellor will be able to readily aid in the development of timelines and goals regarding that subject matter with the campus's leadership and members of that working group. While this appears complex, it is organized and has begun development of excellent conversation about work development as the fall semester begins.

University Progress Update

Vice Chancellor Carolyn Dorsey discussed work that had begun between System Staff and campus President's in the development of their own Strategic Plans, or Frameworks, in an effort to find common areas of focus or goal alignment with those listed in the University of Maine System Strategic Plan, particularly as each campus prepares to engage with their faculty and internal/external stakeholders in the development of discussions and focus groups regarding campus initiatives and missions.

A weekly meeting to discuss all the different activities that relate to the Strategic Plan with the President's, the Chancellor and System staff has been established to address any issues or items that come up at the campuses prepare to begin discussing their plans with faculty, students, and staff.

Discussion of content for September Board of Trustees Meeting

Vice Chancellor Dorsey noted that in the previously mentioned meeting regarding the Strategic Plan with the President's, Chancellor and System Staff, items that could be brought before the Board to report on progress and ongoing work both at the System and campus levels would be identified and collated for presentation at Board Meetings.

Chair Cain asked for recommendations on what progress or items regarding the Strategic Plan for what could be reported on by Vice Chancellor Dorsey at Board Meetings from the group, for example an update on the construction of the communication framework would be welcome.

Recommendation included: updates on activities and themes regarding the Strategic Plan, a presentation on how the Board and its various committees will be involved in different areas of the Strategic Plan, updates on engagement with the Strategic Plan and the Board of Visitors, updates on faculty engagement regarding the progress of the Strategic Plan and their feedback, reactions 'on-the-ground' from community members,

Additional information about the meeting can be found on the Board of Trustees website:

[Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Materials - University of Maine System](#)

Adjournment

Kayla A. Flewelling, Interim Clerk