

**Planning Council Minutes**  
**Wednesday, August 30, 2023**  
**1:00 pm – 2:30 pm**  
**Montana Board Room, NAH 359**

<b>Members Present:</b>		<b>Others Present:</b>
Jodi Allison-Bunnell	Terry Leist	Rebecca Belou
Colter Ellis	Kim Nordby	Mary Kate Blake
Chris Fastnow	Susan Raph	Ariel Donohue
Brett Gunnink	Jim Zimpel	Tracy Dougher
Ryan Knutson		Ian Godwin
Rebecca Koltz		Megan Lasso
Venu Mendu		Craig Ogilvie
		Richard Rudnicki

I. Welcome and announcements.

Chris Fastnow, Chair. The council made self-introductions, and the new members were welcomed. The make-up of the council includes a member from each college, the vice presidents, and a committed group of interested parties.

II. Council charge and participant responsibilities

A. Council Charge

1. Promote the alignment between the Plan and resource allocation – at the university level and in all its component units. Includes championing and centering the plan in our spheres.
2. Advise the President on priorities and progress.
3. Facilitate adaptation of the Plan in response to changing circumstances, whether external or internal, positive or negative.

B. Member responsibilities

1. Serve as two-way communication streams, bring the insights and preferences of your constituencies to the council, and relay council recommendations to help align units with the University’s goals and priorities.
2. Know well what’s in the [MSU Strategic Plan](#) and remind colleagues to consider the plan in local decision-making.
3. Communicate regularly with leadership, faculty and staff, and students in your areas to hear what is important and talk to them about what the university-wide conversation yields.
4. Center the whole University. We leave our hats at the door and focus on how the institution moves forward, not how we put our college or organization first and amass resources for us alone.
5. Contribute agenda items and share what works well in your experience on specific parts of the plan or strategic planning itself.

III. Discussion

- A. Priority Goals for AY25: Memo sent to the President with 1.1 and 3.3, followed by discussion at the executive summer retreat. The cabinet thanked us for the good work and for limiting the option to two goals. Goals 1.1 and 3.3 have been endorsed; this will be shared at the September University Council meeting. Share back to your constituents for planning and budgeting in the units.
  
- B. Extending the plan through 2026
  - 1. Review time-related metrics and actions, refresh dates—review for suitability in the current environment.
  - 2. Create a communication plan for the update.
  - 3. One set of meetings between now and the next PC meeting to discuss updates to each Intentional Focus area. Each PC member will volunteer on one of three subcommittees.
  
- C. Work plan for AY24:
  - 1. Regular tasks: Champion the plan. Monitor progress on goals. Set priorities for local planning and global/local budgets.
  - 2. New this year: Update/refresh the plan.
  - 3. Ideas from members
    - a. Accreditation role
    - b. Extension's Needs Assessment Survey
    - c. Demographic changes affecting enrollment and state population
    - d. Compensation deep dive
    - e. Vacancies and turnover among staff
    - f. Overview of centers and institutes
    - g. Persistence to Degree committee work/projects
  - 4. A call for agenda items will go out ten (10) days before each meeting; please continue to submit your contributions. The agenda will be published on the website and emailed to the council the Friday before the meeting. Minutes will be posted on the website as they are approved.

IV. Other business - none

V. Public comment - none

**Next meeting**  
**September 27, 2023**  
**1:00 pm – 2:30 pm**  
**Montana Board Room, NAH 359**