

# Ad Hoc Strategic Plan Committee AY23

Meeting #3, September 20, 2022  
Meeting held via Microsoft TEAMS

Present: Kevin Cantwell (Chair), Stephen Svonavec (Recorder), Lorraine Dubuisson, Marc Miller, Martin Kehayes, Mary Roberts, Kendra Russell, Amanda Register, Keisha Fields, Mary Wearn, Tracy Green, Charles Richardson, Rod McRae, David Sims, Modupe Oyewolo, Samantha Boswell,

Excused: Margo Woodham, Richard Kilburn

The meeting convened at 4:04 PM

The agenda was approved by voice vote. The minutes of meeting #2 (September 13, 2022) were approved by voice vote after a minor errors were corrected.

The committee reviewed data folders which had been uploaded to the TEAMS site. Kevin Cantwell explained the process by which these files were created and discussion ensued, with a focus on the Student Affairs data file.

Committee members discussed how this file and others put a focus on greater community connections and how improving in this area can help MGA grow, and it should be a priority, with outreach being made to the community. Discussion then focused on the data files stressed the need for the facilities and infrastructure to make such outreach feasible.

The committee next discussed MGA's ongoing efforts to support students, faculty, and staff in regards to mental health wellness. It was pointed out that part of this includes helping students find a sense of community to help them cope with the pressures of attending university. The committee talked about how helping students feel connected to the university is very important, especially given the uncertainties of modern life where a sense of connection can be beneficial in numerous areas.

The committee discussed how sports is not mentioned in most of the data files, and how MGA markets athletics. This committee discussed how athletics can play a role in building a sense of community, both with MGA and with the communities where our campuses are located. There was brief discussion of current plans for the future of MGA athletics.

Following brief discussion of how the files stress the need for close cooperation between Student Affairs and Academic Affairs, the committee concluded its discussion of the data file by focusing on budget issues raised in the files and the possibility of using alternate funding sources to help meet goals set for the future.

Kevin Cantwell informed the committee that sub committees may be formed moving forward to address specific matters such as those discussed in this meeting. He then discussed the upcoming Town Halls on October 3, encouraging committee members to attend at least 1 of them and to encourage their colleagues to attend as well. While the Town Halls will be on Cochran and Macon, smaller events will be held on our remaining campuses in the near future so that those who cannot attend the town halls can contribute to the discussion.

There followed discussion about creating a survey for faculty and staff to get more “granular” information than in the pre-convocation survey.

The committee briefly returned to the discussion of events on the smaller campuses. Kevin Cantwell discussed past efforts in Dublin as an example of the importance of these campuses. Charles Richardson stressed the importance of effectively advertising these events.

Kevin Cantwell informed the committee that the next meeting, date TBD, would likely be in-person in Macon.

The meeting then adjourned at 5:10 PM

Submitted by Stephen Svonavec