The University of Texas at Dallas

2018 SACSCOC Financial and Physical Resources and Information Technology (FPRIT) Committee Meeting Minutes

May 23, 2016
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Lone Star Conference Room (AD 3.104)

I.   Attendees

Member	In Attendance	Member	In Attendance
Denise Paquette Boots	X	Kim Laird	X
Mariah Armitage	X	Terry Pankratz	
Paula Austell	X	Ravi Prakash	X
Darren Crone	X	Toni Stephens	X
Naomi Emmett	X	Chad Thomas	X
Joseph M. Izen	X	M. Beth Tolan	X
Abby Kratz	X	Scott Willett	X
Kelly Kinnard	X	Larry Zacharias	X

II.   Call to Order and Introductions (Kim Laird)

With several first-time attendees present, members of the FPRIT committee introduced themselves.

III.   Approval of April 22, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Larry Zacharias motioned to approve, Kelly Kinnard seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

IV.   Announcements/Update
     a. Department of Education Letter (Laird)
         i. Department of Education issued a letter to the regional accreditors, which includes SACSCOC, regarding both flexibility and tighter scrutiny of applying standards. The full-text version of the letter was provided. The DOE attempted to provide clarity in two areas:
             1. Accreditor flexibility
             2. Accreditor effectiveness in maximizing accountability and enhancing quality
         ii. Recommendations made for using certain outcomes metrics as well as student loan default rates.

1. SACSCOC President Wheelan spoke about how she did not feel that student loan default rates should be used as a quality metric for institutions.
2. UT Dallas' student loan default rate is well below the national average.

iii. Recommendations made for increasing accreditor flexibility

1. SACSCOC has already issued a survey to determine if and how they might break up their standards for different levels of SACSCOC institutions.
2. While SACSCOC has not yet issued a response to the DOE's letter, it is likely the response will include the survey responses.

   ACTION ITEM: Kim Laird will share the SACSCOC response as soon as it is released

b. Student Financial Aid Audit (Beth Tolan, Laird)
   i. As part of the SACSCOC reaffirmation, to satisfy CS 3.10.2--audits of student financial aid--we will have to provide external audit reports as required by our federal and state regulators for student financial aid.
   ii. The financial aid audit must be for our accredited institution as it stands alone.
   iii. Findings must be by institution, not system or state.
   iv. An important point is that we can provide the state federal awards audit if, and only if, findings are listed by institution and the institution is clearly included (such as being listed in the federal awards listing by name).
   v. SAO has typically provided this service, and plans to do so again.
   vi. SAO will be on campus October 3-7 and October 10-14 to conduct a full scope audit.
   vii. First time a full-scope audit has been conducted at UTD.
   viii. There is a strategy to this process. It is a good idea to have the financial aid audit done for FY 2016, so that if there are findings we will have time to correct them.

c. Additional Committee Charge—Alumni Communications (Laird)
   i. The FPRIT Committee was approached to consider the challenges associated with maintaining contact with alumni
   ii. Proposal put forth for students keeping their UTD student e-mail addresses after they graduate.
   iii. With our development and technology resources on this committee, the SACSCOC Leadership Team is hopeful that we might assist in developing a solution to maintaining contact with our alumni.

ACTION ITEM: Scott Willett will lead a team including Paula Austell, Darren Crone, Joe Izen, among others, to explore viable options for improving communications with alumni.

d. QEP Topic Selection (Laird)
   i. Reminder—proposal submission open through June 1.
   ii. Five broad categories focused on promoting student learning and success
      1. First-year experience
      2. Communication Counts
      3. Wellness
      4. Curricular Globalization
      5. Digital Learning: Innovation and Integration
   iii. Anyone may submit a proposal!

V. Additional Committee Resources (Laird)
   a. Document included in meeting materials that provided additional links to UT Dallas SACSCOC resources
      i. 2008 Focused Response Report Navigator (net id and password required)
      ii. 2014 5th Year Interim Report Including
         1. Overview
         2. CS 3.11.3 Physical Resources
         3. FR 4.7 Title IV Program Responsibilities

   ACTION ITEM: Laird will provide MS Word version of the document to committee members.

   b. Plans for Narrative Review and Drafting Updates—the Provost Technology Group is working to establish updates to CCR repository
      i. Will include ability to download documents in MS Word format as well as pdf
      ii. Work on dedicated workspace continues

VI. FPRIT Committee Assignments/Expectations (Laird and Tolan)
   a. So that committee resources can be maximized during our work this summer, the enclosed committee assignments have been made. This structure is presented with the following in mind
      i. The structure should allow a focused approach in reviewing and updating the narratives.

      ii. The responsibility for review and updating can be shared with minimal confusion

      iii. Smaller workgroups are typically more efficient

b. Specific individuals have been assigned to specific narratives

      i. Provides clear direction

      ii. Ensures organization

c. First name listed on the assignment will coordinate the review and draft development

d. Non-entrenched committee members will provide review services during draft development

ACTION ITEM: Committee members need to read the 2007 version of assigned narratives, consult the SACSCOC Resource Manual for guidance on the rationale and suggested support documentation for each requirement/standard, and keep the following questions in mind during the review:

- What are we doing now that we were not doing then that we need to describe/document?
- What were we doing in 2007 that we are no longer doing (deletions of references and related documents will be recommended)?
- What were we doing in 2007 that we are no longer doing that we should be doing?

Make notes on areas of concern with regard to narrative and documentation, identify potential additional subject matter experts needed, and be prepared to discuss findings at next meeting.

VII. Upcoming Meeting Schedule—Laird reminded the committee of the summer meeting schedule

a. June 27, 2016

b. July 25, 2016

c. August 22, 2016

VIII. Adjourn (Laird)

With no further business to discuss, the FPRIT regular committee meeting adjourned at approximately 4:50 pm.