Infrastructure & Support Executive Committee

Penn State Strategic Plan Implementation

Update as of January 31, 2018

Kathy Bieschke, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, and Mary Beahm, Interim Vice President for Human Resources, assumed co-chair responsibilities effective August 1, 2017.

## Current/projected activities

The Executive Committee met twice during the fall semester. One of our primary goals was to familiarize the committee with the work that had been done since they last convened. A second goal was to reassess the focus of the committee. The general consensus was that the scope of the committee was too broad. As a result the committee decided to retain two of the goals that had been identified (i.e., Prioritize investment in our people and Invest in physical resources creatively and systematically) and eliminate the third goal (i.e., Invest in/Manage state-of-the-art information technology). It was the Executive Committee’s assessment that substantial work was being done on the third goal via the Executive Committee associated with strategic plan’s thematic priority of “Driving Digital Innovation.”

The committee also recognized the importance of re-charging the steering committee associated with Infrastructure and Support. While the steering committee had been essential in identifying the areas of focus, it had not met in nearly a year. Given the decision to winnow down the goals of the committee, and in consultation with the two previous co-chairs, two new co-chairs were identified in late fall of 2017: Sara Oliver-Carter and Steve Maruszewski. Sara and Steve have been charged with assembling a steering committee that will a) further refine the goals identified by the Executive Committee and b) seek to generate and identify projects that will move the goals forward.

## Results and impact to date

To date, no RFPs have been submitted directly to the Infrastructure committee. Our hope is that our newly invigorated steering committee will foster the generation of proposals that will further the two priorities identified by the Executive Committee and discussed above. Several proposals were submitted in the first round of RFPs, however, that indirectly reference Infrastructure as a closely related supporting element.

## Overall progress toward goals

While our progress to date has been slow, we are now well-positioned to move the goals identified by the Infrastructure Executive Committee forward.