

March 6, 2008

Dear Strategic Visioning Participants:

On February 11, we launched our divisional Strategic Visioning process at an all day kickoff conference at Colleges 9 and 10. As part of that process, you will recall that we identified several “Innovation Themes” and that we decided that “Innovation Teams” would be formed to research and develop these themes into actionable goals.

I have attached a list of the Innovation Themes, a revised draft of our Vision Statement, individual Innovation Team assignments, and an Innovation Team Toolkit to help teams maintain an AI-based approach to their team meetings.


Each Innovation Team is asked to:

- Identify a logistics coordinator and a note-taker. The Planning Team has assigned a facilitator for each team.
- For the April 23 “Progress-to-Date” event, each Innovation Team should have gained a deeper insight into their theme so that each team member is really informed about their focus area and can articulate the value and relevance of their theme within the larger context. This means being able to identify, understand, and adapt best-in-class practices that build on our existing strengths. Teams will be asked to answer the “why, what, and how” of your theme. *Why* is your theme essential to the new vision? *What* can be achieved by implementing your theme? And finally, *How* can individuals within the division achieve superior results?
- By early June, teams should be prepared to share 1 -3 “SMART” (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant/Realistic, Time-bound) goals that not only complement the new Vision Statement, but also provide all Student Affairs units with a foundation for establishing priorities, action steps and a framework for making effective operational and planning decisions.

I am asking everyone to begin meeting as soon as possible so that each team is prepared to present an update when we reconvene on April 23. It is our goal to wrap-up this phase of the process by early June. You will be contacted shortly by your facilitator to schedule the Innovation Team meetings. The facilitator is indicated in bold in the attached Innovation Team list.

Thank you, again, for engaging in this important process to help shape a new vision for the future of Student Affairs at UCSC.

Sincerely,



Felicia E. McGinty
Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs