One Page Summary for Strategic Plan Website

The Cal Poly Strategic Planning History and Process

General Principles for Strategic Planning at Cal Poly:

- Maintain, at the forefront, the purpose of the planning
- Maintain continuity of the institutional mission during all planning processes
- Maintain aggressive transparency
- Establish clear values, principles and vision as early as possible while maintaining flexibility when plans are disrupted as circumstances change
- Include all campus stakeholders
- Encourage shared governance organizations to weigh in formally on all planning documents
- Learn what the institution can do better and make adjustments
- Gather information, both qualitative and quantitative, from expert sources
- Consider all input
- Allow input to influence decisions and be transparent in showing how input influenced decisions
- Create aspirational plans that can function as frameworks for decision-making
- Develop a strategic plan that has goals, metrics and strategies for achieving goals

Cal Poly Planning History Since 2009

These are some of the main planning processes used since 2009. In addition to the following, several campus units and divisions have engaged in planning as a result of these efforts.

Western Accreditation Senior College and University Commission (WASC) – 2008-2012

- Create a large, diverse committee with meaningful representation from faculty, staff and students
- Divide self-study thematically to align with the University mission and assign themes to sub-committees
- Consult broadly with campus stakeholders
- Be responsive to accreditation agency recommendations and “close the loop”

Semester Review Task Force – Fall 2012

- Include shared governance organizations in the creation of task forces; task forces allow better than standing committees for the greatest possible diversity and representation of campus stakeholders
• Identify leaders to serve on the task force who are regarded as competent and honest
• Allow the task force to do the work it was charged to do without interference
• Respect the recommendations of the task force, providing the process was followed and the recommendations were thoughtful

Vision 2022 – Spring 2014

• Actively listen to concerns and ideas about the direction and constitution of the institution
• Create a climate of caring, understanding and active practice in shared governance
• Give genuine voice to groups directly affected by major proposed institutional changes – inform them first and give them the first chance to respond
• Create a one-page vision that outlines fundamental guiding principles and aspirational goals that inform all choices regarding institutional change for the next decade


• Use the university’s vision, values and principles as a guiding tool
• Engage trusted and competent professionals that value shared governance
• Use data-driven estimates of projected admissions
• Engage all stakeholders, including the broader community
• Critically reflect upon and accept appropriate input from stakeholders – this must include the broader community
• Lay out big ideas early – a good process will result in changes

Strategic Plan – 2016-2017

• Develop clear, concise goals
• Solicit feedback on draft of written plan from all stakeholders
• Support efforts by shared governance organizations, such as the Academic Senate, to develop their own feedback deliberation and delivery process
• Use the strategic plan to guide decisions
• Treat the strategic plan as a living document and be adept to change as needed