Administrative Council
January 29, 2020 Meeting

Dr. Way initiated strategic planning discussions for Administrative Council meetings beginning September 2019. The topics covered thus far in these meetings include diversity/equity/inclusion, recruitment, and retention. The minutes and session presentations/activities for each of these meeting are posted on Blackboard. You are encouraged to login in to learn more by reading posted information and participating in the open discussion boards. ALL faculty and staff members have an assigned Blackboard account.   You can go to Athens.Blackboard.com and login with your Athens State email account (First.Last@Athens.edu). If you do not know your password, simply choose "Forgot Your Password" to reset it.

Further details are posted at: https://helpdesk.athens.edu/hc/en-us/articles/360038489214-How-to-Post-to-the-Recruitment-Plan-Discussion-Forum- If you need further assistance, send an email message to HelpDesk@Athens.edu.

The topic for the upcoming Administrative Council meeting on January 29, 2020, will explore information technology resources that will be needed to support the university as we move forward in the development and execution of a new strategic plan.   Technology is a tool that must be chosen based on an understanding of the problem to be solved. It must provide visible, measurable results, and the university must have the will and capacity to fully implement, manage, and maintain the solution.

Because the university uses information systems and various technologies already, participants are likely to be very aware of the "pain points" that come with the implementation and use of technology. Because of the evolving challenges in higher education, there are likely participants who have a technology wish list already. However, instead of looking at the technology first, it is important to identify the problems with the current technology used that may have a negative impact on the student experience or employee effectiveness before attempting to prescribe new solutions.

Given that this meeting involves identifying issues with current technologies and a discussion of future technology resource needs, select individuals outside of the Administrative Council will be invited to attend the meeting.

Activity:

Breakout into assigned groups to discuss functions and resources used by students, faculty, and staff to access data/information or carry out transactions and processes at Athens State. Each group will be assigned a set of related functions/resources and are asked to complete a SWOT analysis template. This will entail identifying internal weaknesses and external threats that affect functions/resources and to identify internal strengths and opportunities to apply new solutions.

Prioritize the identified weaknesses/threats that the group believes has the greatest overall impact on the university and needs to be addressed first. The appointed group leader will present a brief report to all participants.

To guide your discussions, the following questions will be important to consider:

1. What are the problems with existing technology resources? How do these problems impact the student experience or employee efficiency/effectiveness?
2. Are the problems related to training needs, poor navigation/access, inconsistent use, inaccurate content?
3. Is there a need for a new technology-based solution to address a recognized issue within the assigned functions/resources? How would this new solution impact the student experience or employee efficiency/effectiveness?
4. What services and resources are expected by:
   Prospective/current students
   Current/future faculty
   Current/future staff
5. Why are these services and resources expected?

University functions/resources

Recruitment/Retention/Student Success/Pathway to graduation/
Data/analytics/assessments/reports/dashboards – data driven solutions
Pubic facing information/news resources, communications, community relations, public service
Business processes and approval workflows, collaboration, internal data & information,
Teaching/learning classroom/online delivery, support services, access
Campus computing/network/communications/desktop infrastructure & security