

Academic Planning Task Force
Progress Report to the Senate
28 April 2011

The Academic Planning Task Force was directed by Senate to consult widely and submit a plan by the end of April 2011. The task is large, the time is short, and the task force is small. We have eight members (one staff, one dean, two students, three faculty, and a chair), ably assisted by staff from the University Secretariat. Our collective appointment began in January, with the winter term, and none of our members were relieved of other academic responsibilities to facilitate the work of planning. We inherited a large body of input in the shape of the Principal's *Where Next?*, over 40 detailed planning reports filed last April by faculties, schools, and other academic units in response to *Where Next?* (most of which became available to us in March), and the Academic Writing Team's interim report, *Imagining the Future*. In addition, between January and April we have hosted or attended about 30 consultative events, ranging from town-hall meetings to closed meetings with the Principal and other administrators (see the list below), the results of which we are still in the process of writing up and posting on our interactive website <http://www.queensu.ca/saptf/>. Meanwhile, our website has generated over 50 pages of online community response and discussion that is (and is meant to be) still ongoing. These internal planning materials frequently prompt us, moreover, to consult the plans and practices of other institutions and recent scholarship relating to pedagogical, research, and administrative matters.

As we now turn from formal consultation to drafting, it is clear that our April submission to Senate will represent a significant advance in the progress of the plan rather than the plan's completion. Since we are using April for drafting, we will post our submission prior to Senate's April 28 meeting on our website. Our draft submission will include an outline incorporating the "Four Pillars" planning structure, as posted on our website and developed through community feedback. Its draft recommendations will flesh out the four pillars structure. Crucially, this submission will also include an appendix of links to the write-ups of our winter term consultations. For these, and the other materials noted above, are the raw materials of Queen's Academic Plan.

By way of our interactive website and its posting of consultative materials, we are proud to have made Queen's Academic Planning process both transparent to the whole community and open to all input. We intend to continue our work in the same spirit: not only will our website remain open for planning suggestions and discussion, but we will use it to post our sectional drafts as we go, inviting feedback and revising as may prove necessary. In this fashion we hope to arrive at a complete draft Plan before July. But even after Senate has reviewed and approved an Academic Plan for Queen's, we believe that Queen's should continue with Academic Planning. We hope that the interactive planning website will become a permanent site for the ongoing discussion of our academic aspirations, practices, standards, and principles.

On April 28, we will discuss with Senators the framework of the plan, expanding on the approach we have taken and highlighting some of the significant turning points that occurred during the consultation process. Please go to the Task Force website <http://www.queensu.ca/sapftf/> and click on the Drafting link to review the preliminary version. Sections will be posted as the first drafts are developed and we continue to welcome input throughout the process.

Our goal is to present the final draft Academic Plan to Senate as a Notice of Motion at the September 27, 2011, meeting, for approval at the October 24, 2011, meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

The Academic Planning Task Force

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The APTF's consultations between January and April included the following:

- Principal Woolf, January 19
- Senate (preliminary oral report), January 20
- Senate (informal session on Writing, Inquiry, and Interdisciplinarity), February 17
- Town Hall (on Writing), March 7
- AVP/Dean of Student Affairs John Pierce, with Roxy Denniston-Stewart and Arig Girgrah, March 9
- AMS Assembly (on Undergraduate Academic Experience), March 10
- Arts & Science Faculty Board (on the “Pillars” framework and the “balanced academy”), March 11
- School of Business Faculty Board, (“Pillars” framework) March 15
- Martha Whitehead, Jeff Moon, Sharon Murphy, and Nathalie Soini, for Queen’s Library, March 16
- Engineering and Applied Science Faculty Board, March 16
- Jeannette Parsons and Roger Healey, for the Queen’s University Staff Association, March 18
- Law Faculty Board, March 18
- Society of Graduate and Professional Students AGM, March 22
- ASUS Academic Planning Discussions for
 - Natural and Physical Sciences, March 23
 - Social Sciences, March 24
 - Fine Arts and Languages, March 28
 - Humanities, March 29
- Senate (informal session on “the balanced academy” and “doing fewer things, better”), March 24
- Aboriginal Council and Community, March 25
- Writing Centre Forum, March 25
- Arts and Science Committee of Departments, March 25
- Town Hall (on Pillar III, Global Citizenship), March 29
- Doug Babington, Maureen Garvie, Donna Katinas, Susan Korba, and Lori Vos, for the Writing Centre, April 1
- Irène Bujara and Adnan Husain, for the Diversity and Equity Taskforce, April 1
- Susan Cole, Deputy Provost, April 6
- Denise Stockley, for the Centre for Teaching & Learning, April 8
- Michael Adams and Ken Rose, for the Faculty of Health Sciences, April 8
- Peter Harrison for Policy Studies, and David Gordon for Urban and Regional Planning, April 8
- Town Hall (on Pillar II, Disciplinarity and Interdisciplinarity), April 11