Summary of Staff Council Meeting

January 3, 2012

January’s meeting was dedicated entirely to discussions on the Strategic Initiatives Project (SIP).

Strategic Initiatives Project “Café” Discussions

There were eight discussion topics that highlight the main areas of focus within SIP:

- TRI & Research
- Diversity & Internationalization
- Student Success and Satisfaction & General Education
- Net Revenue Enhancement
- Outsource Business Activities*
- Re-engineer Business Processes*
- Optimize Use of Technology*
- Overall Organizational Structure*

* These topics are sub categories within the overarching category of Cost Structure & Productivity Improvement which is one of the five main areas of focus within SIP.

Participants included the Staff Council (SC) Representatives, SC Standing Committee Members, Appointed Staff Representatives to UVM Boards, Committees, and Work Groups, and the SC Immediate Past-President. Each participant engaged in three 25 minute discussions. They were randomly assigned two topics to discuss and were given the opportunity to choose a third topic. Individuals involved in the SIP process served as discussion facilitators and note takers.

Provost Jane Knodell concluded today’s discussions by thanking everyone for sharing their thoughts and providing a staff perspective on the various SIP areas of focus. The ideas and comments from today’s activities will be incorporated into the data collected from other UVM constituents. This information will help form reports outlining how the university will proceed with each initiative. The first of several reports will be released in the early part of the spring semester to provide an opportunity for community input. Additional reports will be released as they become available over the next couple of months. Attendees were reminded that they may learn more about SIP by visiting this website: http://www.uvm.edu/provost/strategicinitiatives/

The next Staff Council meeting will take place in the Livak Ballrooms, 4th Floor Davis Center, Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at 12:05 p.m.