

AMP Open Forum Discussion Questions – Fall 2010

(Draft – 10/19/10)

1. On a broad level, what do you think the Academic Master Plan should accomplish?

2. Does the Academic Master Plan mission statement meet the following standards?

a. From Ship's *Developing a Strategic Academic Master Plan*:

A mission is a formal statement of what the division of Academic Affairs does – the reason for its existence. The mission states why the division exists and what it should be doing. A well-conceived mission statement:

- Defines the fundamental, unique purpose that sets the division apart from other similar units or universities
- Identifies the scope of the division's operations in terms of programs and services offered and markets served.
- Promotes a sense of shared expectations in staff and faculty.
- Communicates a public image to important stakeholder groups.
- Reflects the "emerging nature" of the division.

One approach to mission statements emphasizes the students, their needs, and the method the division will use to satisfy those needs:

- Who is being satisfied (what specific student groups)?
- What is being satisfied (what are the student needs)?
- How are students' needs being satisfied (by what programs, courses, activities, etc.)?

b. Middle States Commission on Higher Education, *Characteristics of Excellence in Higher Education: Requirements of Affiliation and Standards for Accreditation*:

Standard 1: The institution's [division's] mission clearly defines its purpose within the context of higher education and indicates who the institution [division] serves and what it intends to accomplish. The institution's [divisions] stated goals, consistent with the aspirations and expectations of higher education, clearly specify how the institution [division] will fulfill its mission. The mission and goals are developed and recognized by the institution [division] with the participation of its members and its governing body and are used to develop and shape its programs and practices and to evaluate its effectiveness.

3. Describe how the goals, initiatives, and activities of your department, program, or office align with the mission statement, goals, and objectives of the Academic Master Plan?

4. As the AMP Task Force begins work to create a set of recommended action items, which of the draft goals and objectives do you see as those of the highest priority, and those that could and/or should be addressed in the near future?

5. As the AMP Task Force begins work to create a set of recommended action items, what are your expectations and aspirations for SU's academic programs and activities?