Dear Campus Community,

The Strategic Planning Steering Committee had its first meeting of the year on October 16. One suggestion I received at that meeting was to keep the campus regularly updated of our progress. I plan to do that with these brief email updates, likely once per month, and also by asking you to periodically check strategicplan.ucr.edu where the Steering Committee will post documents and news. Below is a brief summary of the October 16 meeting:

- **AKA Strategy** will be assisting us with the strategic planning process. AKA is led by Dr. Anthony (Tony) Knerr, who has extensive experience both in higher education and as a consultant to universities, arts and cultural organizations and non-profits. Tony will lead a small team that includes Mr. John Braunstein and Dr. Belinda Li, who also have extensive experience working in and with universities and nonprofits.

- Members discussed the difference between the Long Range Development Plan (which allows us to grow) and the strategic plan (which helps us decide how to grow), the need for broad consultation on the planning process and communication with the campus, and the goal of establishing accountability for implementing the new strategic plan.

- The working groups reported out on their current status. All have scheduled upcoming meetings and have been thinking about process and information needs. Each will connect with our consultants before their next meetings.

- The group considered three questions:
  - What are UCR’s biggest strategic opportunities for the future?
  - What are UCR’s biggest challenges?
  - What are the “headlines” we want to read about UCR in 2054?

Remember to send your questions and comments to strategicplan@ucr.edu.

Sincerely,

Tom

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