April Monthly Leadership

April 7, 2020

Northern Illinois University
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Question #1- Vernese Edghill-Walden, Bill Pitney

Are the ways that we organize committees, schedule meetings and make decisions, consistent with what our COVID-19 response taught us about interdependence, collaboration and the value of action over deliberation?

• Could we accomplish more with fewer meetings?
• Do we make work for ourselves because we rely on the wrong criteria to create strong, diverse and accountable workgroups?
• Do our current practices promote allegiance to our individual units over contributions to the university mission?
Do we need to change the way we deploy technology to support teaching, learning and working? To help us:

- Provide more options to make remote work routine?
- Respond more effectively to disruptive events- in terms of virtual learning and business continuity?
- Accommodate changed expectations for social distancing in shared spaces such as dining areas, meeting rooms and classrooms?
- Mitigate equity gaps?
Question #3- Sarah Chinniah, Bryan Perry

What are the administrative practices, policies and procedures that need to be transformed, simplified or eliminated? Suggested categories:

- Contract approvals
- Employee life-cycle
- IT investment
- Payroll
- Staff recognitions and awards
- Travel
Question #4- Beth Ingram, Kendall Thu

What are the academic practices, policies and procedures that need to be transformed, simplified or eliminated? Suggested categories:

• Assessment of student learning
• Approvals for change of major and course withdrawal
• Classroom and course scheduling
• Instructional staffing
• Placement testing
• Program review
• Student evaluation of teaching