UW-Stout University Priority C- culture of affirmation

1. University Priority

"What solution are you proposing?"

Ensure a culture of affirmation that enhances an engaging and supportive environment inside and outside the classroom. (Some terms that may be considered as descriptive are: respectful, engaging, inviting, welcoming, inclusive, accepting, enjoyable, genuine, collaborative, intellectually stimulating, supportive, and challenging).

Linkage to Strategic Plans

University of Wisconsin-Stout Strategic Plan

Linkage to FOCUS 2010 goals

Goal 1: Prepare alumni for success.

Goal 2: Create a learning community that supports and encourages the engagement of its members in active learning.

Linkage to Enduring Goals

Goal 2: Preserve and enhance our educational processes through the application of active learning principles.

Goal 3: Promote excellence in teaching, research, scholarship and service.

Goal 5: Foster a collegial, trusting and tolerant campus climate.

2. Statement of the Issue:

"What issue are you trying to solve?"

There is a need to increase student learning and engagement, as demonstrated by the findings in the NSSE survey. There is a need to increase faculty/staff/student morale.

3. Action Plan:	Responsible:	Timeline:
"What has to be done for this priority to succeed?"	"Who are the positions or people that will be responsible for each step?"	MUST be specific target completion date.
Identify best practices (internal and external) of teaching, learning and engagement which are to be shared campus-wide	Director, Teaching and Learning Center	Fall 2005
Develop expectations of behavior. (This will also serve as the "core values of a learning community")	Implementation Team	Spring/Summer 2006

Obtain commitment from faculty/staff/students to the expectations, and publicize the culture of affirmation/expectation statement (obtain endorsement by Senates).	Provost working with Senates	Summer 2006
Hold a 'student centered' in-service for the faculty/academic staff to clarify responsibilities and expectations, and share best practices	Provost	Fall 2006
Review findings of NSSE survey and identify areas of focus	Provost working with EAC	Spring 2007

4. Implication for Resources:

"What is needed for this priority to succeed?" (Human, fiscal, physical, other)

This priority will require faculty and staff time and effort (commitment and tenacity)

5. Key Measures of Performance:

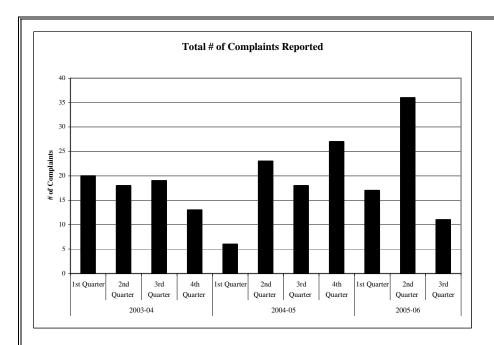
It is the expectation that priority owners will be using/maintaining the process measures to assess action plan deployment. At the end of the fiscal year, the Strategic Planning Group will review and discuss the implementation progress and impact.

Process Measures:

Identify no more than two process measures when answering the question:

"What information will be collected to assess successful deployment of the action plan?"

-Complaint tracking results



-Exit interview results

Figure 1. UW-Stout Unclassified Exit Interview Survey

Factors that influenced Unclassified Employees' decisions to leave for 2003-2005.

20 18 16 14 # of responses 12 10 10 8 6 4 2 Transfer Resignation Dissatisfied w/ Dept./Unit Higher Salary Nonsupportive Environment Not Renewed Workload Issues Recruited Geographic Location Retirement Window Fam. Personal /Matters Position eliminated Inadequate research support Poor relation ship Fringe Benefits Relocation of Spouse/Partner No Work for Spouse/partener End of appointment term

-Faculty and staff development program evaluations

-Student satisfaction/perception questionnaires, surveys, etc. See university performance indicators listed below

-Tasks completed according to timeline See university priorities progress updates

Performance Indicators:

BPA is responsible for benchmarking overall performance to answer the question:

- "What information will be collected to benchmark and measure the priority's success?"
- -Student engagement (NSSE), http://www.uwstout.edu/bpa/ir/performance/engagement.pdf
- -Student Satisfaction Survey (ACT), http://www.uwstout.edu/bpa/ir/performance/actsurvey.pdf
- -Overall level of morale, http://www.uwstout.edu/bpa/ir/performance/morale.doc