Updated as of 10/1/08

Fall 2008 Listening Sessions
<u>**Response Form Comments**</u>

➢ FOCUS 2010 Accomplishments
  • Impressive!

➢ Visioning Session Theme: Foster More Collaboration
  • Are we attending community functions like the chamber of commerce to offer assistance to corporation/business in whatever issues they are having? It gives students the opportunity to deal with real world problems and bind us with the community more.
  • Need more equipment for labs to work together.
  • Build collaborative culture.

➢ Visioning Session Theme: Adapt Delivery Methods to Meet Needs of Non-Traditional Students
  • As you expand use of technology, UW-Stout needs to increase technological support. Too often the technology does not work!
  • Increase understanding of adult learners and non-traditional learners.
  • Increase support and training to deliver successful delivery methods.
  • Build a relationship between faculty and adjuncts.
  • "For profit" was used to describe our customized institution programs. We need to be careful in how we communicate excess revenue after expenses. I believe that when we need approval to deliver CI/DE programs they were done so based on each recovery not for profit. If we are developing a system to house our CI/DE programs we need to honor the success and systems that are already in place. Use what is working to define the model. There is some fear that someone will be put into a director of distance education that has no experience with the successful operation doing so.
  • Offering guidelines to provide consistency would be welcome. Centralizing admin and leadership would derail the agility, the responsiveness the services provided to students that we currently offer.

➢ Visioning Session Theme: Expand Applied Research
  • Need qualified master's level technicians – full-time – to accommodate research projects.
  • Let's not forget about the quality of teaching!
  • Include participation for staff.
  • Define and clarify "applied research"
  • Build a "research culture"
  • Focus more on quality of research. So easy to explore research but stay below standards like many schools do. Emphasize research background when hiring faculty, incentives for getting published in peer-recorded journals.

- Assist faculty that are engaged in applied research project based instruction. To publish or develop presentations via ? session. Will the discovery center do that? Use the library as a location for the discovery center-central, adequate space.
- Facilitate the processes to free up faculty to actively work with students and companies.

- Visioning Session Theme: Go Global
  - Include staff in statements.
  - Diversification: students/faculty/staff with disabilities. Include/ integraded into course learning an issue of multicultural, diversity and disability.
  - Increase international student enrollment.
  - Incorporate multicultural diversity and disability issues into class discussion and cause content.
  - Foster experiences for faculty and students. Move international studies to student center as part of that renovation.

- Visioning Session Theme: Focus on Sustainability
  - Solar/geothermal use. As buildings are built/reminded these items should be considered - green roofing and flattop buildings (grass/plants/ etc).
  - Decrease use of paper – encourage staff for consider online vs. handouts, copies, pieces of paper.
  - Recognized what we preach and teach.
  - Build a green or sustainable culture throughout the University.
  - The MSTD program has an annual Summit here on campus. Our theme this year is on sustainability. This will impact all academic disciplines.

- Visioning Session Theme: Emphasize Experiential Learning
  - Challenge the TLC to lead the way of incorporating experimental learning with in general curriculum.
  - Service learning – require? – I'm not sure that would work for all programs. I encourage you to so research before making it mandatory
  - Vital for Polytechnics.

- Visioning Session Theme: Grow Program Array in Focused Manner
  - More FTE's for example, programs keep class sizes small (less or equal to 35)
  - Will more faculty and staff be hired?
  - Build collaboration culture (again)
  - Provide resources as an investment if we expect return.
  - We've expanded our program array significantly. Do we have the resources to implement? Do we need to slow down the expansion and get systems in place?
  - High time we had an exercise Dept. exercise or fitness is a multimillion ? (right below IT) informational technology. Also considering the importance of exercise in preventing diseases.

- ➢ Visioning Session Theme: Expand Marketing Efforts
  - Create a web page/website catered to selling ourselves
  - Attention to the "global" focus of inclusive focus.
  - Attention to the multicultural, diversity, and disability.
  - Top class university recreation facility. Great ways to promote to school and stand out in a state like WI.
  - We must put the website as #1 priority to as a marketing focus. This is the entry point for prospective students – graduate and undergraduate to explore UW-Stout. We need true expertise assigned to it and it needs to happen now. We've been talking about this need for seven years. It's time to do.
  - Marketing is more than recruitment. Marketing includes delivery on the promise made at the time of the recruitment – example: applaud research experiential learning, quality instruction and facilities.

- ➢ Visioning Session Theme: Increase Entrepreneurship
  - Participation should include staff.
  - And staff
  - Good idea. Big movements in social entrepreneurship.

- ➢ What other issues are important for the university to be thinking about for FOCUS 2015:
  - Have more strict requirements for enrollment – want quality – not quantity.
  - A true realignment is needed such that programs that no longer serve society or be better housed with appropriate disciplines.
  - Teaching and learning! Focus on improving our teaching and the learning of our students.
  - There were many excellent comments – none by me.
  - Include staff – items say faculty and students – staffs are an important part of UW-Stout success.
  - Faculty/staff support – great ideas these but where is mention of increase of staff to support these goals we already have increase in students with no additional support.
  - As you expand innovative technologies, provide the IT support, training for use.
  - Our core values and mission drive the mix and type, programs and students we have at Stout. Be true to these core values and mission.
  - Although I understand the need for "consistency" and "common face" for our marketing efforts for our customized tuition distance education offerings I am concerned that centralization will slow and dilute our efforts with students. As a program director I rely on our delivery strategies to be agile and adaptable. Off campus students need to feel as if Stout is in their backyard. A centralized system has failed in the past it negatively impacts my retention efforts. I advocate for a decentralized, highly agile, personalized approach to continue to deliver excellent service to our off campus students so that they complete my program.
  - Work on reducing the paperwork circulated around campus.
  - Increase the use of electronic signatures.

- Decrease the number of signatures required on a form. Example at the beginning of each semester – (two week periods) eliminate the drop card-eliminate the need for a faculty remember to sign the drop card.
- For the initial drop period let students do it alone online – add this feature to the registration and records job site.

How valuable was this focus group session to you?

Valuable	Somewhat valuable	Not valuable
3	**3**	

Comments about the session:
- I am new (July) - so this was very valuable in learning about Stout and the direction it is going.
- Good discussion.
- Based on some of the comments I heard – I think "an overview of Stout, it's programs and it's delivery methods" would be beneficial for new faculty, staff and program directors.