Senate of Academic Staff (9/17/08, 3:30) Comments:

- **Service Learning (Experiential Learning Opportunities):**
  - Add unified, university effort & requirement to have outside experience to graduate
  - Tremendous changes in students from when they leave Stout for their experience to when they come back; advantageous to all programs to have experiential learning
  - Chancellor indicated that Senates would have to endorse the recommendation to require experiential learning

- **Increasing Entrepreneurship:**
  - Include staff
  - We are the university that is able to include entrepreneurship; consider developing a minor, workshops, infuse into curriculum
  - Good opportunity
  - A lot of these things are currently in place; Stout should take this 1 step further

- **Adapt Delivery Methods to meet needs of Non-Trad Students:**
  - Any thought of adding evening/weekend courses?
  - Demographics of traditional students is going down, the demographics of older students is going up, so it is an opportunity for us
  - Any time there are classes during weekend and evenings – we can put into a marketing effort
  - Avg person will probably have 10-14 jobs by the time they’re 38 yrs old, so non-traditional students are a good target audience for us

- **Expand Applied Research:**
  - We should think about whether it fits or complements what we are
  - As a Polytech, we have to expand our vision and incorporate applied research

- **Go Global:**
  - We should take our instructors to teach courses overseas
  - Distance Learning with students from other countries

- **Focus on Sustainability:**
  - Important to sustain our resources for those coming behind us
  - Not just “are we having sustainable practices on campus”, but also are we teaching sustainability in our classes?
  - Practice throughout university at all levels
  - Offer workshops to students re: sustainability in res halls
  - Young people are really interested in sustainability

- **Grow Program Array:**
  - We only have 32 programs and compared to other universities, if we’re going to retain students, we have to look at growing our programs
  - Surprising how many students come to Stout knowing they’re going to have to leave because we don’t have a major that works for them
Particular area that we should focus on? Health, organic food, finance, marketing, accounting

- **Expand Marketing Efforts:**
  - Change our image as a “suitcase college”
  - Continue to market the whole uniqueness of Stout
  - Perfect opportunity to market ourselves to a lot of different constituencies; social networking, facebook is where students are
  - Alums and retired faculty/staff are our ambassadors for marketing
  - Include alums and business partners in social networking so students can learn from them
  - Program Advisory Councils can have a huge impact

- **Collaboration:**
  - Helps because everyone has a piece of the pie
  - Building business partnerships – feed students into those companies
  - Look at other UW schools as potential collaborators

- **Other:**
  - expand use of technology; lack of skills among instructors and/or students; prepare them better
  - Retention – look at what we can do to engage freshman students more (1st yr experience, work more with faculty/staff)
  - Diverse Populations: students with disabilities need to be included; integrated into course learning
  - Customized Tuition: Systems in place are for brick and mortar students, but there are sometimes road blocks for distance students (ex: registration)