

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)