Listening Session on 9-25-08 from 8:00-9:15

Go Global
- Goal to internationalize campus – communication and understanding other cultures.
- Provide opportunity and funding to assist with study abroad – put resources behind this goal.
- Work on expanding international students at Stout.
- Do we have a goal of number of students that study abroad? Previous goal was 10%. Claudia Smith's goal is 25% by 2012.
- Attract diverse faculty, staff and students, also include expanding curriculum in this area.

Adapt Delivery Methods to Meet the Needs of Non-Traditional Students
- Consider pre – k – 12 as suggested by head start.
- Need opportunities for faculty training to teach online courses effectively.
- State has lost manufacturing jobs – need to focus on returning learner.
- Consistency in online course management and delivery.
- Limit class sizes for online learning.
- Offer night, weekend and summer courses with appropriate support for those non-traditional students not ready for online courses.
- Online students do not receive information needed – more consistency throughout the University.
- Should consider having a prior orientation for all online courses prior to beginning classes.
- Distance ed should combine face-to-face, instructor travel, online delivery.
- Need to define what online and distance means at Stout. (Student orientation)
- Need to do a lot of work to be ready to offer these types of courses and packages. Our customers are very savvy about the delivery of courses – need to be prepared to be able to do a good job.
- Need training in technology for older non-traditional students.
- Do we need to offer remedial skills courses to prepare then for further education.
- May need to use technical college resources to transition adult learners back into education.
- Large amount of support needed for non-traditional students. If that is provided, students are likely to continue their education.
- Support services: tutors, math centers – is that what we are talking about. Need to attend to the academic issues for non-traditional students.
- Standards for online teaching are needed. Online courses require a lot of time on the instructor's part.
- Veterans could be treated as non-traditional students, as they may need assistance adopting to their return to education.
- Need to look at different ways to market to non-traditional students.

Expand Applied Research
- Applied research should be mainstay, which differentiates UW-Stout Polytechnic from other Universities.

- Develop definition and examples of applied research – differences among depts. and colleges - need to be more consistent.
- Establish a center for applied research within each building or area.
- Location is an issue when students choose similar programs elsewhere.
- Focus on graduate research and more graduate assistantships. (expand research)
- Continue to focus on grad research and increase GA's.
- Need to provide time for faculty to pursue research. Working with private sector takes a lot of time and effort.
- Consider incorporating research with freshman students. An introduction of a culture of research. Could also increase retention of freshman students. (expand research)

Focus on Sustainability
- Polytechnic university should be at the forefront of sustainability and technology.
- Revolving funds to be able to work on initiatives for sustainability.
- Role of health and human services to assist with developing sustainability programs.
- Service learning as part of experiential learning – teach freshman to do service learning during their first year as a unifying experience.
- If students don't understand the purpose of service learning it can backfire – have students contribute and bring back to the classroom so students see the tie-in.
- Make sure everyone in the university is aware what different types of applied research are happening on campus to further service learning.
- Carpooling – to help people get here from Twin Cities, may help to increase our pool of candidates and may bring in a more diverse population of students.
- Health insurance issues with the state plan impacts faculty from Twin Cities.
- Students are demanding courses on sustainability. Students requesting study abroad coursework and experiences on sustainability.
- Incubator project with solar panels is a good example of sustainability that could be used.
- Sustainability is a nationwide issue. Is it a part of our current programs and courses? Some of the communities are using sustainable practices – we could work with them and support this at a higher level – with a huge return.
- Marketing opportunity if we collaborate with local community in service learning projects and local farmers and businesses.
- Sustainability will create new products.
- Opportunity to reach markets that don't even exist yet.

Expand Marketing
- Research is innovation and this should be marketed.
- Growing focus needs to be flexible as market needs and technology changes to adapt quickly.
- Need to market who we want to be.
- Students should be used to market, along with faculty and staff.
- Meeting people and coaxing them to choose us.
- Redefine what it means to be a Stout

- Alumni due to distance ed – how do you fundraise with those who don't have the emotional ties and personal relationships.
- Service learning and community involvement are good marketing opportunities.
- Marketing is a resource issue. Marketing needs to be very sophisticated, particularly in international marketing.

Foster More Collaboration
- Collaboration – internal and methodology for shared courses across departments and colleges – internal collaboration needed.

Expand Program Array
- Increase offerings other than degree programs, such as certificates.
- Can grow within existing programs – if resources are available.

New Ideas
- Concept of LEAN is a recurring theme – review practices, policies and procedures.
- Is UW-Stout pursuing associate degrees? Response from Chancellor: other UW campuses have this authorization and we should have the authorization since the others do. At Stout, if students come for two years, they tend to continue for a four-year degree.
- Conflict with goal of having higher admissions students and growing global population – many of whom may be first generation.
- Good online instruction will encourage those students to have a closer connection with their peers, and to the faculty that helped to build a relationship with the other students, faculty, and the university. Builds a community!
- Providing services that students need to online students will help to connect them to the university.
- Innovation opportunities increased with face-to-face interaction, both on campus and in the community – mental model changes during innovative processes.