



**Office of the Chancellor**

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**Listening  
Session  
Invitation**

DATE: August 31, 2009

TO: Faculty      Academic Staff      Classified Staff      SSA President

FROM: Chancellor Sorensen  
Provost and Vice Chancellor Furst-Bowe  
Vice Chancellor Moen

RE: Focus 2015 Listening Sessions

*As part of UW-Stout's open, participatory planning process, all faculty, staff and students are invited to the listening sessions held each fall to discuss the fall 2009 University Priorities and to provide input on future priorities to achieve FOCUS 2015. We would like to encourage you to attend one of these sessions.*

During the listening sessions, you will have the opportunity to:

- hear about the FOCUS 2015 goals,
- provide feedback on the fall 2009 University Priorities already underway, and
- provide input on ideas for future University Priorities.

Last year, nearly 400 faculty, staff and students attended the listening sessions.

**Listening Session History**

UW-Stout develops new "FOCUS" goal statements every five years. The first of these goals was FOCUS 2010. Since implementing FOCUS 2010, UW-Stout identified, implemented and funded 21 University Priorities. Prior to FOCUS 2010, over 45 priorities were identified, implemented and funded.

Major initiatives have begun as a result of your input at these listening sessions:

- implementing customized instruction, which is now available in 24 programs,
- achieving polytechnic designation,
- increasing enrollment from 7,708 to approximately 8,600 students in fall 2009,
- increasing scholarship awards from \$1,538,012 to \$2,252,795,
- increasing the number of distance education courses from 184 to 278,
- establishing the Curricular Incubation Center, and
- rolling out the e-Scholar program.

## **Background for FOCUS 2015**

In summer 2008, UW-Stout held a Stakeholder Visioning Session to kick off the FOCUS 2015 planning process. The Visioning Session was attended by 85 participants, including legislators, a member of the UW System Board of Regents, as well as leaders from business, the Menomonie community, education, UW System, UW-Stout, students and the Stout Foundation. In small groups, the listening session participants identified big ideas that UW-Stout should be thinking about in the next five to eight years. All of their ideas were typed up, and themes were identified.

During 2009-10, two committees were formed:

- The first committee utilized a participatory process to complete a review and update of UW-Stout's Mission, Vision and Values, and
- The second committee utilized the feedback from the Visioning Session and Listening Sessions to develop four FOCUS 2015 goal statements.

In summer 2009, the strategic planning group developed four University Priorities to support these FOCUS 2015 goal statements. Additional University Priorities to achieve FOCUS 2015 will continue to be identified over the next several years.

## **Agenda for the 2009 Listening Sessions**

In an effort to save paper, we will NOT be providing handouts at the listening sessions. If you would like paper copies, please print them off of the fall 2009 listening sessions webpage: <http://www.uwstout.edu/bpa/planning/fallisten/2009/index.html>

The discussion will focus on these main items:

- Fall 2009 University Priorities:  
<http://www.uwstout.edu/bpa/planning/univprio/2009/index.html>
- List of potential ideas for future university priorities:  
<http://www.uwstout.edu/bpa/planning/univprio/2009/future09/index.html>

## **Other ways to be Involved and Provide Input**

All faculty, staff and students have five opportunities for input:

1. Participating in the fall 2009 listening sessions
2. Contributing to the on-line message board available through LinkedIn.  
Additional information is available on the Fall 2009 listening session webpage.
3. Completing the comment card found online  
<http://www.uwstout.edu/bpa/planning/fallisten/2009/response09.doc>
4. Recommending ideas to faculty, academic staff, or student senate representatives.
5. Recommending ideas to your college/school or division councils, who can bring it to the attention of the appropriate member of the Chancellor's Advisory Council.

If you are unable to attend a listening session, please consider providing your input through these alternative methods. Employees and students can attend any session.

The listening session schedule is attached. Please contact Michelle Young (x5308, [youngm@uwstout.edu](mailto:youngm@uwstout.edu)) with questions. We look forward to hearing your ideas on the future of UW-Stout!

## Fall 2009 Listening Sessions Schedule

As part of UW-Stout's open, participatory planning process, all faculty, staff and students are invited to the fall 2009 listening sessions. All faculty, staff and students are invited to participate **in any session**. Sessions are expected to last about one hour and 15 minutes. No registration is necessary.

Open Session 1	Wed, Sept 23	8:00-9:15am	Millennium Hall Rm 205
Senate of Academic Staff	Wed, Sept 23	3:30-4:45pm	MSC-Ballroom A
Stout Student Association	Tues, Sept 29	7:00-8:15pm	MSC-Cedar/Maple/Oak
Open Session 2	Wed, Sept 30	10:15-11:30am	MSC-Ballroom A
Open Session 3	Thurs, Oct 1	10:00-11:15am	MSC-Cedar/Maple/Oak
Faculty Senate	Tues, Oct 6	2:15-3:30pm	Price Commons-Glass Lounge
Open Session 4	Wed, Oct 7	10:15-11:30am	Price Commons-Glass Lounge
Open Session 5	Wed, Oct 7	3:00-4:15pm	Millennium Hall Rm 205