



Office of the Chancellor

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**Listening
Session
Invitation**

DATE: August 30, 2010

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 2010 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:

- Receive brief background information on our planning process and current FOCUS 2015 goals,
- Engage in feedback on the fall 2010 University Priorities already underway, and
- Provide input on implementation-related questions for the fall 2010 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 was FOCUS 2010. Since implementing FOCUS 2010, UW-Stout identified, implemented and funded 25 University Priorities. Prior to FOCUS 2010, over 45 priorities were identified, implemented and funded.

Transformational initiatives have been achieved as a result of your input at these listening sessions:

- implemented customized instruction, and a new customized instruction unit, which is now available in 26 programs, certifications or course sets,
- achieved polytechnic designation,
- increased enrollment from 7,708 to approximately 9,200 students in fall 2010,
- increased scholarship awards from \$1.5 million to \$2.1 million,
- established the Curricular Incubation Center for new program development, and
- fully implemented 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, 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. In summer 2010, the strategic planning group developed six 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.

Handouts

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 2010 listening sessions webpage: <http://www.uwstout.edu/static/bpa/planning/fallisten/2010/index.html>

The discussion will focus mainly on the:

- Fall 2010 University Priorities:
<http://www.uwstout.edu/static/bpa/planning/univprio/2010/index.html>

Other ways to be Involved and Provide Input

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

1. Participating in the fall 2010 listening sessions.
2. Commenting on the electronic message board/blog – will be available from the listening session webpage:
<http://www.uwstout.edu/static/bpa/planning/fallisten/2010/index.html>
3. Recommending ideas to faculty, academic staff, or student senate representatives.
4. 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) with questions. We look forward to hearing your ideas on the future of UW-Stout!

Fall 2010 Listening Sessions Schedule

As part of UW-Stout's open, participatory planning process, all faculty, staff and students are invited to the fall 2010 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 22	2:30 pm to 3:45 pm	MSC-Ballroom B
Stout Student Association	Tues, Sept 28	7:00 pm to 8:15pm	MSC-Cedar/Maple/Oak
Open Session 2	Wed, Sept 29	11:00 am to Noon	PC-Glass Lounge
Open Session 3	Thurs, Sept 30	8:00 am to 9:15 am	MSC-Ballroom C
Open Session 4	Thurs, Sept 30	1:25 pm to 2:40 pm	MSC-Ballroom C
Open Session 5	Wed, Oct 6	9:00 am to 10:15 am	PC-Glass Lounge
Combined Senates	Tues, Oct 26	3:15 pm to 4:30 pm	PC-Glass Lounge

*Changes to meeting dates, times, or locations will be posted on the website at <http://www.uwstout.edu/static/bpa/planning/fallisten/2010/schedule10.pdf>