

Stout Student Association 2010 Comments

What responsibilities would you assign to the service learning and engagement coordinator to help achieve our 2015 goals for participation in these activities?

“I guess just if you had someone like this make it more public to people like service learning opportunities or whatever, because I don’t think a lot of us when we heard you talking about it didn’t have a firm understanding about what service learning was and we have been here for four years so get someone to make it more public to the university what in fact it is.”

“I think it might be beneficial to kind of give something to make it a little more public to do something like we have for the sign up for classes, have like a dropbox or like have somewhere you can go just an easy option for students online and that way we can kind of... so we can have people in the public that have opportunities and see what is available and have... that way people that have laptops here can go on there and see that and it helps other community members get active too.”

“Also I think if there is a service learning opportunity for class... put that as part of the description for the course so that students will see that and maybe that will sway them to take that course”

“...Take a picture and sign up in a minute or two. I think that’s making things as easy as possible using the technology we have I think that is probably most important.”

What additional learning communities should we be starting in the next 5 years?

“People that go to school here usually know one or two people that are going to school here beforehand... I’ll recommend this to you because I thought it was pretty cool. I think it is probably more important to target your groups, but at the same time if everybody knew about it, it would definitely help.”

“I got the opportunity to work with the orientation as well, and after we gave the survey to all of the freshman, a lot of them said for learning communities they also wanted to know before they even got here, like on tours and stuff, I don’t know if it can be integrated that way or if they can like (get) a pamphlet or book or such. Some of them said that they found out about it too late before they could sign up... whichever one takes the trips and stuff. Some of them wanted to be in to it before they got the chance and it was too late.”

“When I was an RA, I was the RA for that community and they encouraged a lot of activities and events that I could put on my Resume... I think that would be a good one to start again.”

“I have a suggestion for non-profit (blank) learning community. I think you should do one for foreign exchange students or English as a second language students and help them more maybe meet once a week to work on some aspect of the English language to improve upon... There are

a lot of students who come up here who need more help, and they come over here and just get lost.”

“I also don’t see the savvy learning community. When I was a freshman I was part of that and we did a lot of service learning activities.”

“Try to make them more sustainable programs that we can keep continuing.”

What are your ideas for how we can integrate sustainability into the curriculum?

“I think one way to do it is integrate into the majors and see if sustainability is major specific.”

What are your ideas for energy conservation policies that we should implement at UW-Stout?

“Well I guess one idea I would like to start with that I know we talked about before is looking at buildings we can shut down during the summer months. I know that most of them still stay open for summer classes, but maybe look at ways to consolidate all of the summer school classes into one building, and then you can completely shut down Harvey Hall or something.”

“I think it is already being done, but... motion sensors using that same concept for more bathrooms, not to say that we would change all of them right now but when they get updated or renovated use that practice and policy and that approach for any kind of lighting update”

“I know this is difficult with all of the older dorms we have, but as we create new dorms... look into letting each room control its own temperature because I know from living in the dorms a lot of times it is just so hot in my room in the middle of winter we have our windows open”

“...Water bottle fills so you go to the fountain to fill up your water bottle... But, I think that is a good water conservation method.”

“I know I’m stealing someone’s idea from Sunday, but this may be implementing a natural light period during the day when, even if you have to go class to class to see which classrooms during the day just flat-out don’t need the lights on, because I think a lot of them just have the lights on to make it comfortable to the students, but a lot of times it doesn’t matter to the students and it really would benefit.”

“I think academic building temperature is another thing too. Sometimes I get into classes, and I think it varies a lot by how many people are in the class and whatnot, but sometimes it is really cooking in there. I guess I would prefer to have to wear a sweatshirt to class and take it off than to wear a t-shirt to class and be extremely warm.”

“...Better lighting altogether in the dorms, I feel like sometimes we have tons of lamps that are plugged in and being used... kind of feel like your studying in a bat cave.”

“Programs that show water conservation in the dorms.”

“One of the things that I thought about was how we used to do a whole campus walkthrough at different times and on different days seeing what lights were on and seeing how things working at different times and then noting that. Well all walk through buildings and ask ‘Why is that light on or why is this light on?’, just doing a some type of a walkthrough and noting those things or small things like that can probably save you a lot of money. “

“One thing contradictory to what we heard on north campus as far as the water bottle function, I noticed that in Jarvis on both floors that I’m regularly working on, there is only a single location where this a water fountain, and it is kind of in the back and out of the way, far away from the regular traffic. So it is in no way encouraging the use of reusable water containers”

What previous initiatives, from Plan 2008 or other action plans, have led to improvements in retention and/or graduation rates for minority students?

“I not entirely familiar with the previous initiatives, but obviously a great way to make a student want to stay on campus is involvement. I mean I know that I wouldn’t be the student that I am if I wasn’t involved and I know that is definitely important for students.”

“I agree with that statement just because I know a lot of people who stay here because they are involved in organizations and get involved.”

“I’m not familiar with the previous initiatives because I am a transfer student, but as a minority student I know that I find having that sense of community and appreciation and understanding that it is comparable to what your culturally familiar with. I know there is a very small native community here and there’s a lot of different aspects and ways in which you can directly reach to someone’s community... Being persistent... but it was the initial push got me motivated. I know there is a lot of people that aren’t really going to be looking and a lot of them are just scared in their new environment, and having that welcoming reach and possible coming out again multiple times just saying we appreciate you we would like to be here”

“...People in the programs need to do that too. The program directors were all here for school whether you’re a minority student or not, but we (minority students) need to feel welcome within your program and your major and to know where support is for individuals, and also know if there are other students of a certain minority group or population that they can go to that is familiar with the program. Someone who is a junior can help out someone who is a freshman. Hey you are someone that is also from the same background. You have to be a little bit careful about how you do that, but maybe upperclassmen can kind of be mentors for individuals. I think that would go a long way toward helping people here.”

“Well I’m involved in athletics and I would say that a large majority of minorities on this campus are also involved in athletics. So if there is a way that you guys as a university can assist the athletic department, whether financially or another way of just getting more recruitment for minorities from more minority rich areas”