Faculty Senate Priorities for 2007-2008
As comprised by the 2006-2007 Faculty Senate

FACULTY SENATE PRIORITIES
Major Issues

Priority 1: Workload
    Issue: The major theme of the faculty priorities responses revolved around faculty workload concerns. Based upon this feedback we conclude that faculty workload has increased due to loss of faculty FTE and increase on demands of faculty. Faculty are "maxed out". The significant increase on the demands of faculty has caused morale and retention issues. Faculty feedback indicates that excessive workload prevents faculty from consistently performing all aspects of their jobs well, most importantly potentially impacting student learning.

    Action: The Faculty Senate should investigate workload issues on campus and create a campus workload policy that is consistent with the UW System policy.

    Action: The Faculty Senate should also look at the workload policy as it relates to faculty expectations on promotion and tenure. These components of faculty responsibility including teaching, research, service, advisement, faculty development, graduate courses, class size, online (distance education) courses, curriculum/program development, and administrative duties (if applicable).

Priority 2: Defining Polytechnic
    Issue: A common theme in the faculty feedback centered on defining the polytechnic designation and what a 21st century Stout graduate should know and understand. Questions and concerns were raised regarding program development, program alignment, planning and allocation of resources (including FTEs, equipment, etc).

    Action: The Faculty Senate should develop a statement of curricular and program goals for the university and a 5 or 10-year plan that would develop UW-Stout into a top-tier polytechnic institute.

Minor Issues

    Shared Governance
    Issue: A sense that the Faculty Senate is not representing the Faculty and that there is a communication disconnect.

    Action: The Faculty Senate should review our governing by-laws to look for efficiencies in representation and communication.

UNIVERSITY PRIORITIES
Major Issues

Priority 1: Information Technology (IT)
    Issue: IT issues were common in the responses. Some of the themes included wireless problems in such places as Harvey Hall; giving the instructors more control of the IT in the classrooms; and keeping the IT standards high in alignment to being a polytechnic university.

Priority 2: Distance Education
    Issue: That the Distance Education programs on campus should be aligned to better serve our students at a distance.

Priority 3: Interdisciplinary
    Issue: That there is a need for a mechanism to allow more interdisciplinary activities such as team teaching.

Priority 3: Diversity
    Issue: That more needs to be done to promote diversity on campus and global perspectives in the classroom.

Minor Issues

    Online Library
    Issue: That we need to work to strengthen the Libraries online resources.

    Faculty Evaluation
    Issue: That we work to make faculty evaluations more consistent across the campus.

    Funds for Research and Professional Development
    Issue: That we work to make funds available for summer research and faculty development.

    General Education
    Issue: Reexamine the G.E requirements and adjust to be more in line with GE requirements of peer polytechnic institutions.

    New Construction
    Issue: Campus participation in the new Science Wing and Harvey Hall projects.