

11-13-2014

Faculty Breakfast Feedback Notes

Strategic Planning Development Team

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Faculty Breakfasts

Strategic Planning Project

October 30th, 2014, 8-9:30am

Location: Simon Benson House

Strengths

- We are very good at supporting the Oregon community.
- Our students are very employable
- Location (How do we make this more accessible across disciplines?)
- Quality of teaching
- Cool factor
- Able to work with community organizations. The community colleges and universities dynamic is very strong. It enriches the teaching experiences and enriches learning.

Opportunities

- We could attract more local high school students.
- Innovation and entrepreneurship = mindset is changing on campus and in higher education in general.
- We have an opportunity to be more diverse. Could be a leader in social justice.
- How do we trap into youth identity?
- Could attract higher achieving students.
- We should modernize our pedagogy.
- International students groups provide a great opportunity.

Questions/General feedback

- In what specific ways are we unique?
- Globalization = what is to be gained by putting more focus on our international students?
- How do we address the the challenges of retention and research being shared priorities?
- How do we lean on our uniqueness to leapfrog some of our challenges?
- We are not a traditional university and need to evaluate ourselves on different matrices.
- What are our budget priorities?
- What is it we don't want to do?
- It is difficult to leave campus and see what others are doing... no funding for conferences, etc.
- Topic team = what if we had a futures think tank? A group that is focused on how we bring ourselves into the modern age.
- What do we want? Which audience are we serving?

- How does one achieve a teaching and research profile when we are teaching so much?
- Issue: Travel is difficult.
- Issue: International studies cannot provide a comprehensive curriculum.

November 13th, 2014, 8-9:30am

Location: Simon Benson House

- How do we define research?
- How do we define excellence? How do we define excellence in research?
- What kind of student are we trying to attract?
 - How do our services align with this demographic?
- How do we work smarter?
- How do we bring people into PSU and keep them engaged?
- We need a better sense of clarity and realistic support to achieve our goals. In other words, what are our priorities?
- How do we engage in broader conversations across departments to meet our goals?
- How do we focus our resources around our vision?
- How do we know we have excellent faculty and staff?
- How do we determine the quality of our programs and their importance? This isn't as simple as looking at numbers.
- How do we retain, support and nurture our faculty and staff?
- What is the role of faculty who are not in research?
- What is the role and composition of our faculty?
- A strong university is a diverse university.
- How do we define value? Some external conversation has to be different than the internal conversation.
- What do we do here?
- What does it mean to be a PSU student?
- We need to stay grounded in the reality of our situation.