

## **Notes from Collegial Conversation Forum – 10/23/09**

### BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS

We build a community of scholars by providing a comprehensive curriculum that is not only informed by the diversity of disciplinary expertise of the faculty, but also by the varied educational objectives of the students matriculating through the curriculum. A community of scholars honors a range of learning styles and pedagogies. It embraces students who

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- Scholarship in action (field trips, demos, out of the box activities that show work within the field)
- Make things available through multiple media
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### PROMOTING A COLLABORATIVE DECISION-MAKING ENVIRONMENT

A culture of genuine and meaningful communication is essential to effective decision-making. The ability for all constituent groups to participate in dialogue and discussions that shape the directions and priorities of the college is essential to the institution's success as is the ability of faculty, staff, students, and administrators to come together under a banner of shared purpose and to pursue objectives that enhance the learning and success of our students. We recognize that a decision-making process that is open to input from all groups at the college and in the community has the best possible chance of sustaining the institution's values and mission.

Goal 1: Collaborative decision-making should clearly demonstrate the participatory process and validate participants, especially students and new faculty and staff.

Rankings:     1 (7)  
                  2 (3)  
                  3 (3)

### BRAINSTORM!

- Clear demonstration that participative input was used to make decisions—validate those who do participate
- Put students first in terms of meeting schedules—other ways to hold meetings—webinars, skype—use technology to gather people. Wireless.
- Students need to be welcomed in planning groups with introduction to jargon and organizational structure (e.g. FTEF)
- Make process clear (program planning)--Governance 101

Goal 2: Collaborative decision making should include a variety of types of gatherings, meetings, events in face to face and social media.

Rankings:     1 (3)

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- Research the most effective communication for different populations within the campus
- Use food
- Develop international view of community
- Provide training (time management) on skills that reduce stress so people feel they have time to participate
- high-touch outreach
- Reduce silos/islands by promoting activities that involve/engage people across the campus
- Define a process of planning to all, especially new faculty who might have a reduced load the first year they can get fully integrated in college ethos that first year.

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Goal 4: Collaborative decision-making should include a variety of collaborative activities, processes, interaction types.

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### BRAINSTORM!

- Bringing people here to experience the campus, group counseling, HS Students
- Tie heritage months to outreach efforts
- Collect info to drive activities based on feedback from real people.
- Share info on the little benefits of being a student (mo



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Goal 4: Create easy transportation from campus to transportation hubs and back, for example: shuttles and zip cars.

Rankings:     1 (1)  
                  2 (2)  
                  3 (1)  
                  4 (6)