Planning and Feedback Session

The purpose of this session was to gather feedback from High School Counselors through a carousel design and discussion. Four questions were selected and posted on charts. Participants were asked to respond to each question individually. After rotating to each of the four charts, discussion was held with all members about their common remarks for each question.

**Group:** High school counselors at Explore BSC Day
**Date:** 10/24/11
**Tool:** Carousel
**Attendees:** 9

What is the one thing we need to change at BSC that would enable us to be a great institution?
- More connections with high school programs (outside of Bismarck – for rural schools) that feed into a degree program. More dual credit for rural students. (3)
- Advisors who have knowledge about all programs and connections to careers. More training for advisors.
- Promote the 4 year programs with MSU and DSU. (4)
- More promotion of technical programs to rural areas.

What are two emerging issues that you can anticipate that BSC will have to deal with effectively if it is going to thrive in the future.
- Online options are needed. Making high school juniors and seniors aware they can start online programs.
- Integrating more technology but also increasing focus on face-to-face communication and interpersonal interaction. (2)
- How to let students know early how important it is to prepare for academics? (Avoiding remediation.) (2)
- Short courses like CDL training and Heavy Equipment. (2)
- Outreach classes in areas of need (send instructors to students).
- Internships could be used to expose students to jobs – even a day or two on a scholarship basis. (2)
- Exposure, exposure, exposure – people/youth don’t know what they don’t know. (2)
- Look into a program for students interested in working in the oil industry. So many want the money but need some education.
- Adult education/exposure/experiential learning.
What should Bismarck State College do to attract students?

- Continue with Explore BSC Day. (2)
- College buddy online to HS students.
- Connect with apprentice programs (see Barry Dutton at Apprentice Training Office at Bismarck).
- Send a package of BSC program brochures to high school counselors.
- Send out program brochures only to students until they ask for a catalog. (Catalogs scare them to death.) Flyers get them hooked...then send more information. (4)
- Specifics days at BSC for promotion of distinct programs offered at BSC.
- Bring “hand on” career fair to the rural schools.
- Virtual tours of BSC facilities, buildings, classrooms, library, and programs online. (4)
- Visit rural junior high programs. (3)
- Have personal connections with students. Have BSC staff/faculty be able to locate and pronounce small town names. (3)
- Some parents and kids still like hard copy catalogs.
- Send promotional mailings to counselors – not just emails. (2)
- Improve the perception of BSC being just a junior college. (2)
- Continue working with 4-year colleges to offer 4 year degrees on your campus. (3)

How can Bismarck State College deliver quality education at an affordable cost?

- Lower online costs.
- Articulated programs with high schools. Especially encourage HS staff to know about articulation.
- Apprentice connections set up ready to enter (lots of work, I know).
- Look into offering more/promoting more distance education options at a more comparable cost to on-campus.
- Offer work experience credits, if possible, where applicable. (2)
- Dorm living turns students off. Need alternative housing (they won’t share bathrooms, etc.)
- Many of my kids have money. Kids without money won’t speak in their presence. Offer small sessions on how to pay for college.
- Working with industry to provide internships/scholarships.