Planning and Feedback Session

The purpose of this session was: to gather feedback from the TrainND Board members who represent a variety of businesses in the SW region of ND. A modified carousel design and discussion was used to engage CETI staff and board members. Two questions were selected. Participants were asked to respond to each question individually. Each participant reported their insights on the two questions to the entire group. Their comments were captured via multiple charts.

Group: TrainND Board  Date: 10/25/2011  Tool: Modified Carousel  Attendees: 10 board members and 8 staff members

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?

- Young people graduating from high school are going into the workforce because of high paying jobs. (3)
- Many skilled employees are reaching retirement age causing many opportunities for younger, newly trained individuals.
- >2% unemployment.
- Greater use of online training for areas such as leadership.
- Unique training related to the oil industry.
- Meeting the training demands.
- Electronic books. (2)
- A quality education with growing enrollment numbers especially with online programs and/or adjunct faculty use. There is a need to regulate standards.
- Increased technology or ever changing technology and the associated costs. Need to explore the cost/benefit of implementing the latest technologies.
- Invest in technology. (2)
- Finding experience – opportunities.
- Changing demographics.
- Energy boom.
- Talent management.
- Work ethic training. (3)
- Retirements.
- Leadership preparedness.
- Child care education and training.
- Communication methods via technology.
- Long range planning.
- With the many types and formats of education available, how do we know learning took place?
- A more diverse population.
• Meeting the training demands.
• How do we know learning took place?
• Personalized learning systems.
• Succession planning.
• The cost of education.
• How does BSC prepare for (and prepare future students for) jobs that don’t even exist today?
• There are a lot of medical field training opportunities. Significant retirements within healthcare.
• A lack of childcare.
• Consider offering more construction trades – electricians and plumbers are in high demand.
• Continue to put more resources into technology – offering online courses is good. BSC needs to be a leader in technology.
• Environmental focus. Going green is a big issue. Cleaner and greener.
• Planning for infrastructure.
• Continue the progressive technology push – be proactive versus reactive.
• Consider strengthening graduate placement assistance. Related to energy placement – great program but I’m hearing grads still need to go outside ND for their first job. What’s the gap? Why the gap?
• Technology – employees struggle to keep up with the changing technologies – both software and hardware such as ipads, notebooks, etc.
• Technology – due to re-organizations some companies have to work across the miles. Employees need additional training on distance communication tools such as “Meeting Place”.
• Using technology to engage students - communication via technology with younger generations.
• Certifications – or badge passed credentialing leading to personalized learning systems.
• Open source curriculum – University of the people – tuition free – online based – including electronic books.
• The need for soft skills among the workforce – such as showing up on time and being respectful.
• Development of infrastructure – both software and physical.
• Maintain high quality programs.
• Talent matching.
• Learning through social media.

What is the one thing we need to change at BSC that would enable us to be a great institution?
• Greater collaboration with Dickinson State University and with the companies that need training.
• Partner with other countries such as Iraq and Ghana to address the energy needs.
• Look at partnering more with entities already providing services in an area, rather than starting new programs and competing. Keep BSC’s focus on what you’re already good at.
• Global thinking.
• Find a formula to calculate best education at best cost. (2)
• Bring back the value of education.
• Find a formula to measure what is learned, not what is spent on the degree.
• Become the Strengths Finder intuition of ND so that grade school, high school, college, and adult learners are able to identify and articulate where their strengths are.
• Career Academy for community outreach.
• Expand internships in medical field.
• Continue to explore online opportunities.
• Increase connections to businesses.
• Continue to improve BSC’s image. I think it’s great, but some may have the “community college” perspective.
• Cost competitive – vendors are using online technologies which are directly competing with some of BSC’s offerings. However, the vendor delivers to a mass audience which allows them to offer much lower prices for the same materials/content.
• Address the housing issues that will move further east.
• iPad textbooks rather than traditional textbooks.
• Finding comfort in status quo.
• Housing issues – apartments.
• Leverage partnerships between University of Mary and United Tribes.
• Match students to professionals in the workplace for mentor/protégé relationships.
• Continually evaluate BSC’s online programs. There are other vendors with energy curriculum and they are providing it cost effectively.
• Continue on the progressive change path.
• Address the need for critical thinking skills.
• Preventative measures for oil.
• Meet economy demands for OSHA training.