Planning and Feedback Session

The purpose of this session was to get input from BSC retirees.

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<th>Group:</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Retirees</td>
<td>10-27-2011</td>
<td>Questionnaire</td>
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1. What emerging issues do you anticipate BSC will have to deal with effectively if it is going to thrive in the future (e.g., role of technology in the classroom, retirements, tenure, demographics, online education).
   - Auto Body - doing a good job (latest technology/equipment)
   - Board of Trustees - black and white difference of what we are doing now compared to back then (good thing)
   - Welding is taking off
   - Advances in technology - cooperation among colleges - make sure we are doing the same things (common course #’s/content, etc.)
   - Student housing - limited right now - use strip of land down the hill?
   - Rising costs of education/technology advances - need to have sense of cooperation so programs aren’t unnecessarily duplicated (within University System). Benefit everyone financially.
   - Getting qualified applicants will depend on the state of the economy and the discipline. It will be difficult getting instructors for some disciplines.
   - Energy industry - believe it is here for the long haul. BSC should look at programs that would benefit the students that would go out there (in oil fields).
     - Online work within the man camps.
     - How do you get in touch with the people that came here to get a job and can’t find it?
     - Housing shortage
     - It is hard to imagine what it’s going to be like in 5 years - we will have a catch up time with wages. It will be hard for colleges to plan. Students might be older because they might not go to college right away.
     - Not just oil jobs, other jobs also.
     - Young people are working in oil fields so they can afford to go back to college - BSC needs a connection to these people.

2. How can Bismarck State College maintain or manage its growth?
   - BSC has done a pretty good job so far. It’s not easy. This is now a destination college. Very few students from BHS/CHS came here but now they want to go here first.
   - Back then, instructors would go to Minot/Jamestown and would fill in (teach a class). The best recruiter is the instructor. Instructors got students by doing this.
   - Capping enrollment would no longer keep us a community college - we are losing the small college atmosphere. Would hate the community college aspect to go away. What would the people do that need the community college? It would be hard for those individuals to co-exist in a four year atmosphere.
   - Could consider using retirees to help recruit students; put in the BSC budget dollars for BSC retirees to go out and recruit (pay for mileage/food).
- What percentage of Bismarck got started here or have a degree from here?
  - Be clear about our direction. The “4 yr college” has been talked about for a long time and still will be. Going in right direction now so shouldn’t continue to push toward being a 4 yr college (students can go to DSU/MSU to continue).

3. How can BSC become more visible in the community and the region?
- Ads for TV are outstanding (short but sweet and they have a direct message).
- Newspaper/magazines - bold color and simple - eye catching
- New logo is impressive.

4. What additional collaborative efforts should BSC pursue with other institutions in the North Dakota University System?
- Take classes over IVN - individual courses could be shared with other institutions
- Auto mechanics - program in Williston - if demand, collaborate.
- Out-of-state students pay to take classes. Out-of-country students are looking for something here that they don’t have there (fantastic).

5. What are your attitudes about online education and why?
- Makes a difference which course - some aren’t appropriate to take online.
- Integrity of courses should be maintained (i.e., the person that is getting the grade, did the work). Is the rest of the campus on top of this? Seems energy is.
- Quality control. Is it the same course if offered online? Students think the online class is easier and in some cases it may be.

6. What questions or observations do you have for the Strategic Planning Task Force?
- Think we are off to a good start by doing this (getting the feedback).
- You plan for a year or two but any farther out is hard.
- Seems on a good timeline (i.e. before legislature meets this time next year).
- BSC needs to create an employee development and training plan with goals and proof those goals are being met. I do not think there is a person on campus who can tell the total dollars and how and where they are spent on employee training. Knowing just what and how we do spend would be an improvement.
- Consider that voc tech or job readiness programs move to non-block schedules. There is undue pressure on faculty to pass students. For example, a student supposedly cannot go on to the second 5 weeks of study unless the first 5 weeks have been passed. There is no way to remedy the student’s sequence of study so faculty are in an impossible situation. This suggestion was given to us by NCA years and years ago. Intro courses could be dabbled in by transfer students, too.
- Get information to the faculty. We have engaged in studies, conducted them ourselves, yet there is no known place that gathers this info so faculty can readily learn it or see patterns over the years.
- Quit allowing consistent overload of faculty schedules. People who teach 7 or 8 classes get paid more for doing a sloppy job.