**Strategic Theme: Enhancing the Student Experience**

**Goal:** Promote collaboration between BSC, the BSC Aquatic Center, the Bismarck Community Bowl, the Missouri River, and the Bismarck/Mandan Community by integrating new walking paths, community activities, outdoor amphitheater, outdoor classrooms, picnic area, scenic overlook, all with appropriate signage, sculptures, etc., and by providing bicycle and rollerblade rentals.

**Steps**
- Identify and contact stakeholders to form a task force
- Brainstorm potential ways to develop and connect goals and activities
  - Community trivia
  - Community treasure hunt
  - Healthy community
  - Hike to “The Heights”
  - Contests
  - Mystical Mile
- Implement identified plans

**Resources Needed:**
- Bismarck Community Bowl
- Bismarck-Mandan Chamber of Commerce
- Bismarck Mandan Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Bismarck Parks and Rec
- Bismarck Public Works
- BSC Administration
- BSC Aquatic Center
- BSC Continuing Education, Training & Innovation (CETI)
- BSC Foundation
- City of Bismarck City Administrator
- ND Game and Fish OWLS (Outdoor Wildlife Site) for developing outdoors experience
- Students
- Time (set meetings, work time)

**Time Frames**
- Step 1: 8 weeks
- Step 2: ongoing
- Step 3: 6 months for 1st implementation and ongoing

**Suggested Champion:**
Buster Gillis (BSC Director of Athletics)

**Involved:**
- Mel Fisher (Bismarck Community Bowl Facilities Manager)
- Kelvin Hullet (Bismarck-Mandan Chamber of Commerce President)
- Ben Ehreth (Metropolitan Planning Organization Planner)
- Mike Johnson (Bismarck Parks & Rec)
- Jeff Heintz (Bismarck Public Works Director)
Larry Skogen (BSC President)
Dave Clark (BSC Executive Vice President)
Don Roethler (BSC Chief Buildings and Grounds Officer)
Heather Sheehan (BSC Director of Student & Life Residence)
Nancy Gordon (A Healthy BSC Community Chair)
Dee Bertsch (BSC Athletics Office)
Mike Wald (BSC Aquatic Center Facility Manager)
Lori Heinsohn (BSC CETI Director)
Gordon Binek (BSC Foundation Vice President)
Bill Wocken (City of Bismarck City Administrator)
Brittany Fish (ND Game & Fish OWLS)

Success:
Description of what success looks like:
  Increase in participant use of existing facilities
  Increase in participant use of future facilities
  Increase retention and engage students
  More overall community involvement

Potential hurdles or challenges:
  Lack of funding
  Determining who should manage and maintain
  No city support

Goal: Develop a Teaching and Learning Center to support faculty and instructional staff that will promote teaching excellence, make classes more engaging, and provide a better student experience.

BSC students are very diverse and have varying needs. Regardless of age, residence, program, delivery mode, etc., they all deserve to have a good learning experience at BSC. The one thing that all students have in common is that they attend classes. Research shows that students who make a solid contact with instructors and other classmates perform better, tend to retain, and follow through to completion. Through the Teaching and Learning Center, emphasis can be put on improving instruction and equipping teachers with skills to engage students in a way that makes for a good college experience. This office would be a contact point for a focus on sharing quality teaching practices that address student engagement.

Steps and Time Frame
  • Develop a plan and an organizational structure for the center, including a review of possible collaborative efforts with other entities on campus. Outline initial activities and a timeline for development and roll-out. Fall 2013
  • Develop a budget that includes staffing and facility needs. Spring 2014
  • Secure funds and begin implementation. Spring 2014
    o Hire or redirect employees to work in the center. Spring 2014
    o Develop an evaluation plan that will measure the effectiveness of the center. Spring 2014
- Develop training sessions and activities and communicate those to faculty and staff. Fall 2014

Resources
- Release time for faculty to attend training sessions and to implement what they have learned.
- Funds for staff, materials, equipment, space.

Champions
- Drake Carter, Kari Knudson, Distance Education

Success
- Teachers learn and use techniques that improve courses and engage students
- Students report increased levels of engagement – CCSSE and other surveys
- Student satisfaction with their BSC experience is positive – Student Satisfaction Inventory, alumni survey
- BSC becomes increasingly known for high quality education and student engagement