

Breakout Session

- What constitutes a theme?
- University of Idaho – their struggle
 - Mission directed by board.
 - Also, strategic plan.
- How to merge & come up with themes?
- Would like course around scheduling.
- She likes “7 year itch”.
 - On schedule for 2011.
 - But not finalized till 2010.
- All 7 years in 2 years? Too rushed – not thoughtful.
 - Pilot college? Yes – doesn’t want to.
 - Did have strategic plan – core themes – other processes – report to state “convergence model” – i.e. collect one thing and use for model.
 - Instruction.
 - Student success.
 - Staff development.
 - Public square (missed one or two).
 - Some were narrow – maybe not ideal.
 - Pacific University – Forest Grove:
 - Scholarship.
 - Sustainability.
 - Diversity.
 - Civic engagement.
 - Teaching.
 - Columbia Basin College:
 - 2 year window – a couple of things at same time.
 - Carroll College:
 - Standard – access, workforce, transfer, wellness & health, basic skills.
 - Portland Community College:
 - Idea is look at mission & values and then apply aspects to all other programs.
 - Core theme – manifestation of mission (see page 15 of handout).
 - Mission is supposed to color everything in all programs. i.e. look both directions – from programs and core mission.
 - University of Alaska at Anchorage.
 - Pilot person – this is aspect that goes beyond academic – the whole picture.
 - Western Oregon.
 - Vertical – horizontal integration.
 - Is there a difference between core themes (discrete) & core values (flows through everything).
 - Every theme will not address every value.
 - Question: communicate back to campus – worried people will think it’s no business of theirs – worried about getting people on board?
 - Sees constituents of interest in particular subjects, not all. But the themes properly orchestrate. (He’s been asked to revise mission & themes).
 - Pacific University.
 - Certain constituents advocated certain activities, i.e. sustainability, etc.
 - Bring it back to let people help determine the focus/direction.
 - He’s getting feedback but faculty don’t have veto.

- University of Puget Sound.
 - Going back to recraft mission to meet requirements – they already have their mission.
 - Thinking: really a going back & examining old innocuous mission. What is it you really care about?
 - It can be a wonderful opportunity to bring back life into strategic planning. How would you engage everyone in discussion?
 - Ask where you are now! If it's in development – make that part of dynamic report.
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