Engagement and Data Gathering Session

Group: Faculty Senate

SPT Partners: Kelly Noe, Robin Johnson

Date: November 12, 2014

Design: SWOT/Carousel

Attendees: 20

KEY DATA:

The numbers in parenthesis are how many checks the original statement got showing agreement.

1. Strengths
   a. Faculty with real life experiences in their field (7)
   b. Student/teacher rapport (6)
   c. Pretty campus (6)
   d. High quality programs (5)
   e. Enthusiastic faculty (4)
   f. Various teaching delivery methods (face to face, online, etc.) (4)
   g. Smaller class size means more hands on learning (4)
   h. Safe community (2)
   i. Dual credit opportunities for students (2)
   j. Regional appeal (1)
   k. Diversity on campus (1)
   l. Offering student educational quality comparable to small private colleges

2. Weaknesses
   a. Low faculty salaries (9)
   b. Culture of contempt toward faculty by some board members and administrators (7)
   c. Students who no longer read (6)
   d. Students who cannot write and have no concept of a research paper (5)
   e. No longer the “bargain” it once was. SFA now costs other comparable universities (5)
   f. Increasing enrollment without increasing full-time positions (4)
   g. Time available for faculty research (4)
   h. Lack of local “college culture” forcing students to leave every weekend (2)
   i. General lack of awareness and knowledge about SFA (outside Nacogdoches and university) (2)
   j. High teaching loads (2)
k. Utilization of internal resources (1)
l. Students graduating with little to no confidence or ideas of what to do next (1)
m. Lack of scholarships for students (1)
n. Lack of academic “pride” among students
o. No unified vision on what we want to be (big university, better athletics/academics)

3. Opportunities
   a. Involving students in research (5)
   b. Collaboration/partnerships with local school districts (3)
   c. On-campus recreation (2)
   d. MSN in nursing (2)
   e. Collaboration with community colleges (2)
   f. Enthusiastic alumni (1)
   g. Possibility of new exciting curriculum (1)
   h. Tablet initiative-bringing 21st C technology into the classroom and enabling students to have better connectivity outside class
   i. Lots of fraternities and sororities

4. Threats
   a. Too much time spent on assessment (11)
   b. Top-down “done deal” decisions about faculty without faculty input (5)
   c. Too insular in decision making process (4)
   d. Lack of scholarships (4)
   e. Resources focused more on non-academic issues (3)
   f. Lack of communication between admin & faculty (3)
   g. Fear that doing the right thing (on campus) will piss off the wrong people (3)
   h. Faculty-faculty bullying (3)
   i. Tuition costs rising to quickly (2)
   j. Decreasing funding sources (2)
   k. Possibility of online teaching “stipends” going away (2)
   l. Other learning organizations (ex. Other colleges, Khahn academy, etc.) (1)
m. Online teaching stipends