

Meeting Notes

Cowichan Campus Meeting

Thursday, September 16, 2010

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

B. 602, room 205

Academic Plan

- Process has appeared **top down**, e.g. rank and title
- IT appears to be top down – **identity real problems/issues first and then seek solutions**
- Don't mess up what works
- **Build on strengths**
- Reinforce **one institution**
- Cowichan does things differently because it is smaller
- How does regional administration fit into Nanaimo administration? Question need for a Dean?
- **Uniqueness of campus** cannot be discussed only with data
- Ability here to **respond quickly** e.g. late registration, interest, and student advise
- Focus need to be on professional development; student success
- **Important that Academic Plan focus on:**
 - **Student success**
 - **Learning**
 - **Facilitation of what instructors do**, i.e. advise/support for students
- Concern Academic Plan is bloated and does not address real issues
- Underlying assumption that laddering into degree programs is focus (page 56/57) and **no value placed on lifelong learning, applied programs, literacy and access, and ABE**
- **How we sell ourselves is important**
- How we report – part-time people have numerous reporting line, is there a solution?
- At Cowichan there is a different delivery model, e.g. student services is smaller and addresses a variety of needs
- CD program happens all through Nanaimo but misses local perspective
- **Importance of local input in program and course offerings** and student needs; need to retain that model
- Question of staffing levels – therefore people need to wear different hats to address different needs; can do that at Cowichan because **constantly focused on students** and ability to easily work with others on campus
- Key to create interface that supports student success
- **How you do it is key**
- Many people work on multiple campuses – we are one community and **we have common goals**
- Nanaimo campus should not be called “Malaspina Campus”; that name should be used for theatre, etc. Campuses should be VIU @ Cowichan, VIU @ Nanaimo, VIU @ Powell River, etc.

- Recognise we have gone through major restructuring, but have not caught up to that reality
- Part of organizational restructuring discussion should ***involve those with experience in the changes***
- Lack of voice of regional principle should be rethought
- ***Need to meet and integrate student services across campuses;*** share resources and ideas with other campuses. There is a need for cross-training and planning policy development
- ***Concern with proposed division of student services, e.g. health and wellness***
- What is interface/linkage between Aboriginal Student Services and Student Services?
- What happens to Aboriginal students at Cowichan campus where Aboriginal students numbers are increasing?
- ***Pieces missing regarding Aboriginal student advising; Aboriginal student centre***
- In 20 years, Aboriginal student numbers have grown exponentially
- ***Efficiency and production should be simply numbers***
- ***Laddering possibilities should be explained,*** e.g. carpentry into business
- Need to ***address the trades feeling of isolation and disconnection from “university”***
- Cowichan should be seen more and ‘Nanaimo’ Deans, etc., should make a presence
- Need to ***address the top down delivery of technology and explore opportunities to make better use of regional expertise thru delivery back to Nanaimo,*** e.g. Mac support not present
- ***IT Plan should include: VIU technology and associated support be delivered by student needs***