

Comments from Student Futures and Life Long Learning

Strategic Planning Town Hall 4/17/2019

Heavily market lifelong learning and “personal reinvention” regionally – easy enrollment, parking, books, etc (financial aid) for lifelong learners – expanded online course offerings – “wrap around services” (blueprint) – class registration, co-op/internship, personal health counsel, mental health, career planning, fitness plan, social conscience

Entrepreneurship programs/ training

Experience finding a job and then keeping it- How can students continue to grow their skills in the workplace and grow within their field post-graduation? Certification, advanced degrees, training/ work experiences they need, give them this direction now, so they can plan to continue to grow post-graduation. Career changes: how can students plan for needed career changes now?

Listening sessions with student groups.

Student futures- Reduce all degree programs to 120- “remandate” the states directive from a number of years ago. Assume that all course offerings align with the 4 year plans. Teach all students where to find their degree plans and how to follow them. Increase degree- tutors, peer-mentoring.

Address racism, inclusive pedagogy, and emergency funds for students.

Technology enabled advising that allows students to “plot their course” by performing “what if” analysis (i.e. I’m a 2nd year student in business, what if I switch to industrial engineering? Classes that I need to take, How much longer?)

Student learning impact in coordination with classroom renovations to meet the needs of transitioning was faculty teach (i.e. mobile furniture and use of collaboration vs furniture that is 30 plus years old.

Utilize the social work department in the mental health area. Social work department does a great job of equipping their future social workers to work with diverse populations. Use the social work dept to educate other disciplines on ways to work with everyone.

Find things to differentiate ourselves from the other “sister” state schools e.g. increase our summer course offerings; developing a “winter break” session; clearly define what a YSU liberal arts degree looks like. Acknowledge that we have a “diversity” problem then be bold and intentional about addressing our weak areas. “Staff up” the new assistant provost for diversity and inclusion. One person cannot do it all. Do not apologize or shrink from who YSU is, but decide to be better. ID and provide affordable on and “just off” campus housing for out of the area students ALL YEAR ROUND.

Private funding to support students with needs outside of education.

FYE, gen eds, advising, persistence initiative, degree audits system, experiential learning, mental health, career success, stack certs/ micro degrees.

Co-operative styled sense learning opportunities, internship clearing house services to connect students with regional business and government agencies. Paid internships. Invest in global university partnerships. Invest in online training/ reprogramming available to all students and grads. More accessible/ invest in supply chain economics, produce lifecycle management (Siemens) and business

logistics as part of workforce development goals for all students. Invest in financial Literacy for all students. (Real World)

We need to be better prepared for teaching 7th-12th grade students (CCP) most of us are not prepared to teach this age group.

We need to be leaders in civil discourse, how we talk to each other (online and in person) preparing all learners for social, presentational, and media literacy.

We need statewide plan to bring jobs here. I don't see a very strong drive to pull companies here.

Day care services for children of students, more flexible course completion time, increase staff for advising.

Middle class students not served sufficiently in financial aid. Connecting with businesses that want to provide education. Have a class on discovering your future career.

Enhance co.op/ internship opportunities/ requirements for all curricula.

Multicultural center/ LGBTQ center/ women's center. Office of community engagement/ service learning. New student Union.

More study abroad funding and curriculum integration of study abroad. More foreign languages.

We need to identify institutional outcomes before we can even attempt to re- imagine general education.

Easier admissions process, simpler transfer credit process, gen ed courses that matter and are not just focuses on areas that don't impact a student's future life choices, conduct advising online vs person to person.

Leadership and civic engagement office/ services, peer leadership advising, make sure students develop as leaders through roles. Services/ people dedicated to student employment.

Ethical decision making, technology based education and ne-education- i.e. GM, degree completion programs and articulations, globalization of curriculum.

College experience for working class.

Increase number of counselors on campus to address mental health issues (i.e. if unable to hire/fund counselors consider a PT counselor). Improve data management system to track student progress- retention and persistence during semester- and have retention staff who can follow up problem solve to keep students enrolled.

With experiential learning build relationships with organizations to help provide opportunities for students.

Career guidance is key but so is offering degrees that will lead directly to gainful employment, that is, lead to careers.

Encourage/ require each college to send a staff and faculty to the mental health advocacy training each spring (sponsored by SGA). NACE career competencies were introduced in 2018 orientation and FYE

courses- **build on that**. Link coursework with future goals, including electives and reg'd courses and allow for credit for "real- life experience" –fye advising/ career services, etc.

Student debt and personal finance instruction.

Connect student experiential learning opportunities with productive regional stakeholder needs and activities.

Provide students who earn bachelor's degrees the opportunities to pursue micro- credentials stackable to fulfill requirements for a master's degree. Provide state of the art technology infrastructure and training for staff and faculty.

Credit for life learning PLA- prior learning assessment, competency based learning (western governors is a major chance) we need to consider a new teaching modality. Strategies for attracting and retaining male students; and their attendance to college dropping each year. Services for non-trad. students.

Need improved, more agile department websites to make value proposition to the public. NO MORE EXCUSES! Low cost, high impact.

Attracting a diverse population to YSU to enrich the student experience.

Career and advising integration, shadowing experiences for exploratory students, experiential gen ed courses.

Advising needs to have "one head" - group that can be more responsive and aligned with university priorities, rather than college priorities (current structure). What will be measures of success? Don't focus in on jobs only, but also being an engaged civil participant and citizen.

It is great to get resources for teaching and diversity but what about **institutional research** and tracking student placement and tracking alumni if student placement and data are key to making decisions-then we need resources to help us do that.

Offer students creative outlets and extracurricular activities for non- commuters. Be careful not to be so efficient that we lose the faculty to student relationship (too efficient w section etc. that we become mechanical).

Require a passport completion program for graduation? Students required to have one experiential learning opp, student organizations participation and volunteer hours. Distant future require students to live "on campus" at least one year???

Track our graduates better. Aside: will the strategic plan include how the rewards will go to those who produce the outcomes we strive for? How do we take true dividends from our ROI to the drivers of those investments.

The top complaints we receive from students online are advising issues and lack of knowledge within their financial aid. Is there an opportunity for us to add financial aid/ student loan 101 to discovery of FYE courses?

Well structured, purposeful mentoring of students; priority and alignment of scholarships. Mutual respect and inclusion as a standard to be learned, integrated and paid forward. Well-structured alumni surveys to gather quality data on outcomes.

Micro-loans and micro-grants for students facing financial issues, more intensive tracking of students who drop/transfer.

