

Group 2 Breakout Session Notes Page

Workshop Date: October 27th

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Breakout Discussion 1

Question 1

In light of mission, vision, and values...what are our strengths as a college?

- *What makes our college unique?*
- *What makes us stand out to students?*
- *What makes us Grossmont?*
- *Why would students want to come to our college?*
- *What makes you proud to be a member of the Grossmont College community?*

- Good academic reputation, attracts students
- Diverse student population, including international students - creates opportunity for student exposure to culture
- Robust student services - counseling, resources for students, foster youth, etc
- Mechanism for identifying foster youth
- Support for homeless students, foster youth,
- Strength in employees - they come together to support
- Our community
- Employees passion for student success and well being
- Strong foundation - institution built on solid foundation - quick to address student changing needs
- Evolving with times - might take time for staff to get used to, but we are implementing them
- Changing vision based on student needs
 - Diverse student population
 - Unique student population
 - Academically strong, high rate of transfer
 - Students look for diversity

Question 2

How do we want students to experience our college, ideally?

- *How do we want students to feel on our campus?*
- *What would that look like?*
- *What kind of environment would help create this feeling for students?*

■ *What type of atmosphere do you want the college to embrace?*

- Be comfortable, be students, first generation students
- Be able to understand where they're going
- Be able to navigate our system
- Be educated in their education
- Be welcome, be comfortable, safe, be curious, to be cared for, in order for them to be able to navigate successfully
- We provide clear instruction and ease for students to find resources needed to be successful
- Teach students to advocate for themselves / empower students to advocate
- Students feel acknowledged - their lived experiences acknowledged
- Make sure they feel encouraged
- Be an approachable institution - no student fear in reaching out
- Students be heard and get help navigating the institution
- Student participation on governance committees
 - How do we institutionally support participation
 - Stipends for participation
 - Rethink how we involve students - equitable participation
- Focus on student rather than employee for institutional improvement
- Student needs were met
- Publicly stating that they have been seen / heard / represented

Question 3

Based on your experience at the College, what are our biggest challenges that are internal to our college or district?

■ *What are the biggest institutional factors that deter students from enrolling or persisting at our college?*

- Application / registration process for students
- Easily identifying courses - online / hybrid / face to face
- Advance planning of academic schedule having it ready for students much earlier
- Taking course that is not part of their path of study in order to be able to continue benefits / having to pay moneys back
- Communication with students
- Self-service registration

Question 4

How can we use our strengths as a college to address some of our challenges/areas for growth?

- Listen to the student voice
- Regularly ask the student
- Create clear pathways for students
- Color code different types of course - online / hybrid / face-to-face
- ** note - triage group current looking at registration process issues

Breakout Discussion 2

Question 1

What external factors will most impact the College over the next 6 years?

- *What national, state, local issues do we need to consider?*
- *What changes might we need to make to our programs to better prepare our students for the labor market they'll be entering?*
- *How might our service area demographic projections impact our outreach & retention efforts over the next 6 years (Thinking about increases in the 30-49 age range)?*

- The economy - enrollment tends to track with the economy
- Migration - people leaving california, people coming from other countries looking for jobs rather than education
- Fear being an undocumented student
- Immigrant population being able to find resources for education
- Disproportionate impact of black students in local high schools
- Community demand / need for skilled workforce
- National impacts - covid, national sense on immigration - how we are seen by international students
- Outreach beyond high school, outreach for the overall community
- Being able to offer community classes - exercise,
- Focus on certificates that provide employment
- Improve marketing - go out into the community and let them know what we do
- National conversation around free community college - reduced financial burden should improve enrollment
- Cost of education
- Cost of living
- Addressing student basic needs - housing / child care / food

