UW-Stout’s Strengths

Group 1
- Community cooperation (planning with city)
- Students are good generalists (background)
- Way that mission is articulate (well defined)
- Applied science background students have is crucial as well as collaboration with business
- Philosophy of education UW-Stout has adopted
- Proximity/location to resources
- Co-op and internships applied learning
- Size of institution, ability to develop relationships with faculty
- Economic development-Stout Tech Park
- Jobs
- Collaboration
- Students feel comfortable with machines
- Job ready
- Prepare students for their future relevant for 21st century
- Willingness to blend on line and in classroom teaching (flexibility)
- Opportunity: Export Stout’s mission
- Unique/customized programs
- Innovation
- Hands-on, close knit, involved staff
- Study abroad program
- Polytechnic designation
- Enrichment UW-Stout brings to community (school board, council, theatre)
- Use of technology and staying current

Group 2
- Laptop incorporate into learning D2L
- Data based decision making
- Innovation
- Partnerships-incubators
- Focus on business and technology
- Inviting environment
- Job placement
- Faculty-belief in strengths
- Culture
- Internships
- Career services

Group 3
- Close ties to industry with advisement boards
- Size and scope- small town
• Clear focus on a mission
• Student centered, feel like you have a place
• Applied content courses, high placement
• Location and proximity to a metropolitan market
• I-94 corridor and partnerships
• Forward-looking, evolving
• Good relationships with technical colleges all through the state
• Cutting technology and outreach to alumni, not just financial
• Leadership here is outstanding
• Laptop program
• Recognize stable leadership throughout the region
• Alumni feel strong ties, loyalty connected to their success
• Support that surrounds student when they attend Stout
• Welcome transfer students-solid base
• Good articulation with transfer schools
• Baldrige was special and truly felt by alumni. Perception was that Stout was 2nd class, when in doubt, go to Stout
• True to its mission
• Focused missions
• Polytechnic designation was a brilliant move

Group 4
• Strong focus on student success
• Loyal alumni
• Flexible school
• Sense of mission
• Strong relationship with business and industry
• A lot of students have good computer skills
• Responsive to student needs (curriculum)
• Dynamic curriculum that can be changed to meet needs
• Niche=preparing people
• Majors specific to business and industry-practical
• Delivering what people want
• Fits societal needs
• Emphasis on graduate success, 95% placement
• Aware of community
• Good student/teacher ratio
• Knowledge and commitment to prepare students for the future.

Group 5
• Commitment to students
• Collaboration
• Outpaced UW system transfers
• Innovative-international and national awards
• Interactive culturally
• Brand image-polytechnic meaning
• “Stout” name
• Proximity to Twin Cities
• Campus size

Group 6
• Unique mission-Polytechnic
• Responsiveness and flexibility to community needs
• Applied approach to higher education
• Access to programs for transfer students-articulation
• Partnership with K-12, technical colleges
• Openness to partnerships
• Beautiful locations and rooms
• Use of technology
• Support offices for students, very helpful
• Good outstanding library
• Forward thinking university
• Career services offices very valuable for students and job placement rate very strong
• Opportunity to engage students in research through labs
• Positive labs
• Positive feedback about Stout’s students job ready skills
• Student focused faculty and staff, accessible to students
• Cutting edge majors and program array
• Increasing (ten new programs this year)- from input provided by our stakeholders
• Commitment to quality improvement and assessment

Group 7
• Good connection with Co-op and internships
• Hands-on experiences/applied learning
• Longevity of leadership-committed to action
• Effective collaboration with community, education, technology
• College system (external)
• Nimble institution
• Focused on future
• Pro-active, a step ahead of others, technology
• Adding to our program array, as needs change
• Polytechnic designation-strength
• Stout is a good listener, includes alumni, listening sessions
• Stout is a good communicator, advisory board
• Faculty are forward thinking-forward listening
• Programs are designed to be marketable, graduates able to get jobs
• Internal departments, internal stakeholders
• The focus on technology in all programs

Group 8
• Unique programs
• Practical programs
• Academic reputation
• Applied learning
• Real world experiences
• Type-hands on student
• Learner centered
• Collaborative learning environment, online and in person
• Trusting environment for learning
• Support from faculty/staff/students
• Technology infrastructure
• Efficiencies