Visioning Session Index Card Themes

Foster More Collaboration

- Collaborate with: K-12, business and industry (small and large), tech colleges, other UW 4-year institutions, for-profit institutions of higher education, alumni, international organizations.
- Collaboration will result in: increased enrollment, keeping up with new technologies, development of training and curriculum, expansion of existing programs (ex: NanoSTEM), growth of the Wisconsin economy, development of the I-94 corridor, new program development, economic growth, support for local communities, experiential learning opportunities, more bachelor’s degree recipients, sharing of resources, advancing Stout’s polytechnic identity, courses being taught by people in the industry, a product incubation program, more research and grants.
- Faculty, stakeholders and administration should reach out to make these connections in order to collaborate.

Adapt Delivery Methods to Meet Needs of Non-Traditional Students

- The number of high school graduates is decreasing. Provide more options for the non-traditional, adult student, such as working adults, and Stout alumni.
- Consider utilizing more of these types of delivery methods: online courses, increased use of D2L, hybrid courses, customized instruction, adult degree completion, distance learning, globalization. Stout should also develop branch campuses.
- Focus on maintaining quality and rigor when implementing these new delivery methods.
- Consider new approaches to financing that will increase access to individuals with low SES. Consider other funding alternatives to make this happen.

Expand Applied Research

- The need for applied research aligns with: Stout’s polytechnic identity, program array, areas of strength (such as high placement rates and experiential learning) and new directions (such as the honors college).
- Increase collaborations with: provide sector, local industry, WiSys.
- Participation should include faculty and students and should provide the opportunity for experiential learning opportunities.
- Stout should establish a center for applied research to incubate ideas and opportunities.

Go Global

- Participation should include faculty and students and should prepare students to be “global ready.”
- Provide more opportunities for: study abroad, international students, international program delivery, programs with global component, international co-ops.
- Need to recruit for and attract diverse population and create a welcoming environment.
- Set a goal for a higher percentage of students with international experiences.
Focus on Sustainability
- Increase energy efficiency by looking at alternative energy, green energy, new technologies, green design.
- Implement an education campaign for students, faculty and staff on sustainability and preparing students and employees to be focused on green careers and practices.
- Collaborate with business and obtain corporate support for green programs and practices.
- Implement new academic programs in sustainability.
- Market to the faculty, staff, students and community that sustainability is important to Stout.

Emphasize Experiential Learning
- Expand opportunities for service learning, co-ops, internships, capstone courses, serious research projects.
- Collaborate with the community and area businesses to offer these opportunities.
- Integrate these opportunities into specific courses and programs.
- Set a goal for 100% participation in service learning, internships and/or co-ops (increase from 81% currently).

Grow Program Array in Focused Manner
- Expand program array in these areas: health care, sustainability, nanotechnology, medical imaging, design, graduate programs, alternative medicine, organic food, holistic wellness, international peace negotiations.
- Enhance existing programs that align with Stout’s mission and polytechnic focus: biotechnology, nanotechnology, hospitality, applied science, general education, teacher training.
- Collaborate with business, industry and tech colleges to develop programs that meet their needs, and expand international focus.
- Focus on customized instruction, certificates, minors, degree completion programs and majors.

Expand Marketing Efforts
- Market, brand, promote and position Stout’s Polytechnic identity. Focus on differentiation.
- Showcase our areas of strength: job placement, quality, Baldrige, effectiveness, e-Scholar, online learning, academic programs, pilot training, small class size.
- Collaborate with business and industry, K-12, other institutions of higher education.
- Market locally, internationally, nationally.
- Target audience should include: students, parents, partners, stakeholders, prospective students, alumni, professional organizations.

Increase Entrepreneurship
- Become a national leader in entrepreneurship – education and opportunities.
- Collaborate with businesses.
- Participation should include both students and faculty.

Other suggestions
- Consider optimal size of Stout: should we increase or decrease enrollment, and how?
- Change admissions requirements to be more strict.
- Expand use of technology, focus on innovative technologies and what’s next.