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2025 Conversation - 2/13/2013

The College at Brockport

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College 2025 Dinner
13 February 2013

Present: Steve Lewis, John Osowski, Pamela O'Sullivan, Alison Parker, Kevin Warner
Host and note taker: Maura Keefe

What does the semester schedule look like?

Schedule - is the three-credit, semester long course the only option? Can there be condensed courses (i.e. 8 weeks in the classroom, 5 weeks in the field)?

Condense learning period to provide out of classroom experiences.

Can all students be required to have a study abroad/exchange program experience? (this came up several times in various ways)

Built in to tuition somehow so a basic program could be need-blind.

Set up programs in Toronto, Quebec, New York City

Face to face

Importance of face to face experience across disciplines, for both faculty and students

***Importance of face to face at the beginning of their college experience

Value of student independence on a residential campus, even for those living at home.

Student preparedness

are they ready for college? how can we help?
what kind of rigor is there for transfer student acceptance?
what kinds of support is there for transfer students?

Do we have to meet them where they are or push them out of their comfort zones? (we were divided on this.)

Freshman seminars in history as a model for campus (tenured faculty teaching intro level classes)

Writing intensives important for all disciplines (25 students in the class is big but okay)

Is technology a skill or a tool?

Valuing old skills. What new skills do they need or do they have that we as faculty haven't noticed? Do we need to master those new skills as well? Or can we mentor without expertise? (these questions came up around technology issues in particular.)

How do we provide them with a platform to consider the question, "How you do think?" And make them realize there are multiples answers to the question.

Value of liberal studies/breadth/interdisciplinarity.

multiple faculty viewpoints
concept-based approach with multiple perspectives on the same topic
mandatory minor?
no block sections, closes exploration. (value of block for first semester for building community was acknowledged)

What is the role of SUNY central in relation to Brockport?

Region

are there more relationships like Nazareth/Brockport social work degree to be investigated?

Brockport itself

campus feels pretty and welcoming
increased outreach/assistance to community (i.e. we need a damn restaurant)
campus needs a quadrangle, better gathering spaces, better public spaces
criticism of the name Academic Success Center (elsewhere on campus we don't work toward student success?)
we need at least one squash court (could be multi-purposes- rehearsal space for dance)*

*can you guess who said these two things?

led to larger sense of the importance of flexibility of space for multiple uses

Community building on campus

Appreciation for importance of multiple voices in the conversation, which led to the very real desire/need/demand for increased community among faculty across disciplines