2025 Conversation - 3/7/2013

The College at Brockport

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2025 Dinner Conversation  
March 7, 2013

Hosted By: Eileen Daniel

Attendees: Stacy Birch, PSH; Bob Cushman, LITS, Morag Martin, HST, Logan Rath, LITS, Adam Rich, BIO, Jennifer Smathers, LITS

Demographic Data—What will the student of 2025 look like.

- Numbers of traditional aged incoming freshman currently declining; trend will continue. Brockport has been slow to respond to this.
- Numbers of graduate students declining, particularly in Education. Again, we have been slow to respond.
- Can we continue to offer what we offer in the way we currently deliver courses? Consensus is no.
- Will the students of 2025 view college as a training ground for a job or as a transformative, enriching experience that will enhance their lives?
- Will students in 2025 continue to live in residence halls? It seems likely that more and more will opt for a different type of college experience.

What are the elements of a Brockport experience that make it unique and highly valued? What should we preserve for the College of 2025?

- Unique programs such as Delta should be preserved and expanded.
- Recruit the most qualified students to come to Brockport and don’t focus on numbers which tends to mean less prepared students who are less likely to be successful will be accepted.
- Support scholarships for students already at the College. No high performing students should have to leave because of finances.
- - Continue to focus on the critical thinking component in pedagogy
- - Continue to recruit and appoint the best faculty members and professional staff.
- Should we need to be this size? Quality suffers due to the need to maintain our current FTE. We need to focus on what we do well even if it means cutting programs.
- Too many adjuncts. We need to have more classes taught by full time tenured/tenure track faculty
- We need a greater presence in the Rochester metro area. There is still a perception that Brockport is too far from the city.
- We do many things well but don’t seem to have a focus.
- Continue to keep students engaged.
- Technology
  - Appropriately use online and hybrid learning, maintain a healthy balance for Brockport
  - Online teaching may be the only way to grow graduate education
  - Adapt courses and topics to meet what students need to succeed rather than the standard course delivery, faculty need to reach out to employers to identify these topics
• Pedagogy has changed for the better over the years, professors were not as interested in student engagement or student feedback as they are now.
• Technology should be used to get students engaged in classroom.
• It should be a ‘tool’ but not a driver of education.
• Many tools available that allow online learning to be similar to in-classroom attendance.
• Current stipend to develop online course is not an incentive.
• Online courses are very time consuming and faculty should have a course release to develop them.
• Online learning can be high risk for unprepared students.
• There is a need for more instructional designers as the use of this pedagogy grows.
• We should consider synchronous online education.
• Fear that online students wouldn’t connect to campus life.

Curriculum
• We need to rethink our general education program. Perhaps look at a common core Humanities, etc.
• Large classes with TAs can be successful.
• Students should focus on basic skills: excellent communication (oral and written), computational skills. Less focus on major.
• Internships are critical and should be available to more (or all) students. We should encourage students to seek internships outside the area, abroad, etc.

Miscellaneous
• We need more flexibility to offer new programs; new courses.
• Consider merging programs with other SUNY’s. For example, should all schools offer education, etc.
• Website: is a showcase for those who know us. Need better navigation, etc.
• Unclear about the role of Center for Engaged Learning. Will the Center help students find internships?
• Also generally not certain of the College’s goals.