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Brockport 2025 dinner conversation

April 11, 2013 – Alumni House

Host: J. Osowski

Guests: Crystal Hallenbeck, Laurie Hildebrant, Rick Lair, Jill French, Andrea Vella, Scott Haines

Notes from our conversations

Include College at Brockport students in future dinner parties.

The future Brockport, 12+ years from now

Keep the campus up to date as much as possible with the latest classroom technology, and assist professors with training in this technology.

Enable students to be employable with appropriate programs in technology, business, health/medical, and other “hot” fields. Eliminate underutilized programs.

Specialness of Brockport: proximity to Village, it is a quiet, comfortable suburb, with a good sense of community. Brockport needs to be safe, both the Village and the College. Students who live in the Village do not want to live in run down houses, the Village can do better with code enforcement. Regarding Town/Gown relations: take away the College and the Village and Town would suffer economically, despite some of the problems the Village/Town perceive with the College as their overwhelming neighbor. Village and Town leaders tend to be fickle, sometimes rude (look at Village Mayor and Village Police Chief). College leaders tend to be consistent and polite. The College wants and needs a successful/vibrant Village. Students need to respect the Village and their Village resident neighbors. Part of new student orientation should be a code of conduct for relations with the Village. Perhaps someone from the Village should be invited to speak to incoming students.

Students are attracted to Brockport initially by our academic programs. It typically takes a successful visit to “hook” the students. An attractive campus, with state of the art SERC facility, comfortable residence halls, and enticing programs at the student union, will invite and keep our students.

Actively pursue “legacy” students, sons/daughters of alums. Continue/enhance the residential Living/Learning Communities, successfully grouping students with similar interests.

It would be great to have more internship opportunities in Rochester, with better bus service for students without a car.

Growing our graduate programs could increase the economic well-being of the College, graduate tuition tends to be more expensive than undergrad. On-line courses, especially in the summer, with some professor connectedness, could be lucrative. There should be a limit to the total number of on-line courses allowed in any individual student’s academic curriculum.

Diversity is beneficial. We must continue to emphasize English proficiency for our foreign students. Likewise, our foreign teachers need to be proficient in speaking and understanding English.

On the Residential Life facilities side, students will continue to expect more privacy. The inside of dorms will need to be renovated with durable but comfortable surfaces. The outside of dorms will

be expected to be landscaped more attractively, including attractive lighting adding safety. Make sure prospective parents and students see model or sample dorm rooms that are both new and old.

In the future, we will need to carefully control the placement and growth of summer camp programs. We will more carefully weigh the additional income compared to the wear and tear on the buildings, the lost opportunity to upgrade and repair, the extra cost of utilities.

In 2025 we may exhibit better control over off-campus groups using College facilities without adequate compensation. And we will better weigh the lost opportunity for our students. However, we will expect more adult education classes to attract lifelong learning, with continued abundant recreation opportunities for our students and the local community.

The physical plant in 2025 will be greener and more sustainable. Stormwater will be better controlled, sidewalk puddling problems will be a bad memory. The campus will be more pedestrian and bicycle friendly. Walking paths for ambulatory patrons and mobility impaired will be greatly improved. Clear signage will be abundant to direct visitors around campus. The railroad tracks bisecting the campus will be gone, replaced by a bike path.

In 2025 will the College at Brockport be a nationally recognized masters college, or will it continue to be a great undergrad college?

Respectfully submitted,
John Osowski
Director of Facilities Planning