

**RU Engaged Comments and Feedback
from Attendees
January 29, 2008**

Thirty-five feedback forms were submitted with the following comments and feedback at the completion of the first RU Engaged conversation on January 29. They are divided into three categories:

- Positive comments that did not have suggestions
- Format related suggestions
- Topics for future conversations

The number in () indicates the number of times the same comment was written.

Positive Comments (no suggestions)

- Great idea (4)
- Very Good job (3)
- This was good (2)
- Good show, keep up good work
- Interesting – It was good hear different ideas
- Enjoyed the open dialogue especially from students
- Great dialogue
- Very informative; great way to speak out on issues and problems on the campus; happy I understand
- Good start
- A great beginning
- Well done!
- Pleased with the turn out
- Keep up the good work
- It was engaging
- A very worthwhile 90-minute program
- Future sessions will be more interactive – unsure what it was going to be about
- Pleased to see turn out and variety of people attending and speaking; challenge is doing something with this information as appropriate and realistic
- Effective student comments; very important for them to be involved and encouraged to be involved; good starting conversation; good mix of people.

Format Related Suggestions

- Work in Small Groups (10)
- Use Round Tables (6)
- Discuss more tough, relevant issues (3)
- There should be more students (3)
- Make more interactive (2)
- Provide summary/synthesis of discussion (2)
- Rearrange room
- In the round might be better arrangement

- Need better mic
- Contain the meeting to one hour
- Suggest online forum or message board; some people too shy to speak
- Record responses and post on website
- Have an evening session or one during free period
- Provide summary at end of questions
- Publicize the event better
- Chocolate chip cookies
- Put rules of Engagement on flip chart paper on both sides of room
- Encourage student leaders to attend
- Have a separate outreach to get more students involved
- Don't cold call and expect a response
- More focus; framed questions
- Departments should encourage more support staff to attend and announcement made about such so they feel more welcome
- Encourage Faculty to bring students (2)
- No summarization at end of questions- seemed input was disoriented; as usual (in all open forums) the same students engage in discussions over and over again. Most of them like to hear themselves talk. Make announcement to silence cell phones separate outreach in addition to RU Engaged. We need more student input not just from a few.
- Needs to be more students. I think some students don't go because some are apathetic, but in general why don't know about it or understand why it is important. I think too many questions centered around problems that aren't that prominent – problems that really only exist for a handful of people and not the majority.
- Invite senior citizens and retirees; people who have lived through earlier times have stories that may bring history alive to young students.
- Session is a good way to get ideas sparked regarding Rowan's future; may need ways of further engaging participation or keep discussion at a minimum in some cases.

Topics for Future Discussions

- Service Learning must be voluntary (2)
- Follow up on Service Learning University Wide
- Though I support service learning I think we have to be cautious about adding new requirements. They may be well intentioned but often have unnoticed costs.
- Any service learning must be voluntary in nature – never required. This is the US – based on basic rights of freedom.
- Hang Rowan banners lining 322 similar to St. Joes and Temple
- Um...What is West Campus and Rowan Boulevard?
- I enjoyed the session. I am a commuter students and I don't feel the sense of community at the campus. One major reason I don't come here when I don't have classes is parking. I wish we could have discussed the problems with parking.