

RU Engaged Comments & Feedback
February 25, 2008
(Collected at End of Conversation)

Suggestions/Comments for Future Events:

- The group discussion format is useful. (9)
- We need to continue this discussion! Graduate education is key for our future success.(4)
- New format is much improved.(4)
- The format of this session was positive and preferred over the large room, open session. (3)
- Advertise individual topics to be discussed to get students to come-communicate agenda and topics.(3)
- Where are the students? How can we get them more involved?(3)
- RU Engaged format is a good venue for discussion, but we need to be sure these ideas are followed up. (3)
- When will we get answers to our generated questions?(2)
- There should be more discussion on security-everyone wearing badges. (2)
- Use the e-mails and the Whit more effectively to advertise event. (2)
- I would like to receive information regarding the answers to our questions and bullets. (2)
- The location made it difficult to hear (2)
- Don't like the small tables-cannot hear from the whole group @ large tables. (2)
- Working groups tend to be rather unorganized.
- Summary information should be available on the web.
- Circular tables would be better for dialogue.
- Create sub-communities that can put forth (honest) reports to administration without feeling need to hold back.
- Graduate students in education generally cannot make the meetings unless they are in the late afternoon or early evening, 4 or 5 o'clock.
- In response to students needing more info- are the sessions advertised on campus portal?
- Monday is not usually a good day for these types of events due to meetings and other tasks.
- For those who cannot attend, perhaps creating "RU Engaged" blogging sessions to supplement or add to conversation?
- Tables were a great way to start conversation in regards to topics.
- Need more time to discuss topics as a group.
- May need to come up with start-up topics to get group started.

- Need more microphones!
- Great ideas presented, however the fact sheet lacked some of the facts I felt were important.
- More students would attend if it was in the evening.
- Maybe survey students instead.
- Possibly use SGA meeting where 70+ people attend.
- I was in the “other issues” group and it would have been more effective if we had been given a list of topics that were raised in the previous session. This would have kept earlier conversations going.
- Allow students to be involved in actual planning process.
- Encourage faculty to bring students with them to RU Engaged.
- If you made it more comfortable and appealing to students through advertisement, more students would attend.
- Too short of a time frame given.
- Greater participation of students needed at all tables- most were at service learning.
- Events like this should be held more often.
- A report should be given to the community as to what changes come from RU Engaged.
- It is important that the president is present at these meetings to answer questions and provide feedback since the invitation is from his office.
- President Farish should have attended or should have written another document to clarify his position on the quality of graduate school at Rowan. It was my interpretation that Dr. Farish said the graduate school is of low quality.
- I really don't see the point of these meetings. We need real experts getting together to attend to these issues.
- The sessions are a great opportunity to discuss issues that concern all of us.
- Will feedback be shared with the whole community?

Comments on Discussion Points:

- Very interesting dialogue. (4)
- Good mix of participants present-had many similar views as well. (2)
- A timeline of construction needs to be developed and cannot be delayed due to funding sources. (2)
- We need data on costs of programs as a starting point to move to a plan to promote self sustainability.
- As a potential graduate student, the loss of online journals is a huge deterrent! Research is essential for graduate study!

- What is quality? Clear communication is an issue!
- Have we benchmarked other campuses regarding funding athletic construction?
- What is being done for recreation, not just athletics, on the West campus (field space)?
- How can west campus development follow Rowan's mission, especially in corporate retail, etc.
- I thought the president's white paper's tone was elitist and demeaning of our students.
- Seems very segmented-even though groups reported out, there is no way to really understand what they discussed through five discussion bullet points.
- Graduate education should be self-supporting only for faculty and staff. The university should support the infrastructure of friendship, promotions and all other overhead expenses. The cost of tuition, the conveniences of how or where the courses are offered has to be adjusted and more reasons have to be focused on promotion.
- Quality graduate education needs to be given as much or more regard as bringing in money.
- Competition with Wilmington is a very low goal. Why not compete with Harvard, Princeton, or Stanford to turn out highly educated people?
- Discussion was great- brought out several concerns regarding graduate programs. Program quality, marketing, registration process, etc. were some of the topics covered.
- Some reality checking seems necessary.
- I would like to work on service learning in a more systematic, ongoing way. 3 suggestions: University wide professional development program for faculty on "service learning", a university wide survey to collect data, each college could catalog "service learning" courses.
- Whit should advertise for service activities.
- There should be faculty collaboration with internships.
- Alumni should participate in projects, not just give money.
- More off-campus volunteer opportunities should be offered-data base of volunteer opportunities.
- The national trend is to increase international offerings (Study Abroad, International Students) and Rowan must rise to the occasion.