

## **Delta College Campus Faculty Group Interview (Spring 2009) Instructional Units**

### A: Introduction

Thank you for joining us for our discussion today to talk about Delta College. The college's Educational Master Plan Task Force is very interested in your ideas and opinions about the direction of Delta College and of your discipline(s). My name is Matt Wetstein, and I am Dean of Planning, Research and Institutional Effectiveness. I will be the discussion facilitator today, and I am joined by our two research analysts, Bri Hays and Alyssa Nguyen, who will be taking notes on our discussion. Our office will be conducting a series of faculty and staff interviews to gather essential information for the college's educational master plan. The goal of these interviews is to get faculty and staff input on where the college is currently and where the college is or should be moving in the next five to ten years. The information gathered here today will play an important role in the development of the college's educational master plan. This is an opportunity for you to provide vital feedback about the college, your discipline and what you see for the college's future. In order to provide some context for our discussion, our office has prepared a document outlining the program and summarizing current FTES and staffing figures for your discipline(s). We will be sharing that information with you later in the session, and I would like you to review it and keep it in mind as I ask you questions.

We are going to treat this as a group discussion today, and I will be asking you a few questions about your thoughts and opinions related to college and your discipline. I'd like you to talk about each question while we take notes on what you are saying. Please feel free to say whatever you think. There are no right or wrong answers, and it is important for you to provide your honest opinion, even if it is different from someone else's point of view.

I want to hear everything you have to say, but I want to make sure that everyone who has something to say gets a chance to talk. I also need to cover all the questions I have, so please do not be offended if I have to end one discussion a bit abruptly. I will try to catch up with you later in the discussion if you have a point that you would like to discuss more fully.

Once the task force has heard from the faculty in each discipline, we will be able to provide the college's leadership with the contextual information and input on your discipline that is essential for the instructional component of the educational master plan. Our office and the task force will be compiling the information from faculty and non-instructional department staff interviews, and we will begin preparing the college's educational master plan this summer. Please be assured that no comments will be linked to any one individual, and no names will be included in the summary report that we prepare for the college's leadership. Your feedback is extremely important as we prepare the master plan, and we greatly appreciate your willingness to participate in this process.

Before we begin, let me mention a few of the ground rules for our discussion session. Please speak up, and please speak just one at a time. We'll be taking notes and recording our session so that we don't miss any of your comments, and it is difficult to hear what you say if everyone talks at once. I ask that you please turn off your cell phones so that they do not interrupt our discussion. Our discussion session will last about one hour. Let's start off by going around the room and introducing ourselves. Could each of you please tell me your name and how long you have been a faculty member at Delta College?

## B: Questions

**Thank you. Now I would like you to think about the college and its current programs and student enrollment.**

1. Looking at the college's FTES trends and thinking about the college's different academic programs, how would you describe the college as it is today?
2. Which programs at the college do you believe will grow over the next five years? Which programs will grow over the next ten years?
3. Which programs do you believe will remain at current enrollment levels in the next five years? In the next ten years?
4. Which programs will decline in enrollment over the next five years? Over the next ten years?

**Now we're going to pass out a document summarizing FTES and staffing data for your discipline and for the college. I would like you to take a look at this data for a moment before I ask you the next few questions.**

Thinking about the data you just reviewed...

5. What are the most important features of your discipline or program?
  - a. Is there anything you would change about the description of your program?
6. How do you see your program in the next five years? In the next ten years?
  - a. Do you see it growing, staying the same or declining in terms of enrollment? Why or why not?
7. In your discipline, are there areas in which you feel additional courses are needed for the future?
  - a. [IF YES:] What additional courses do you believe are needed in your discipline?
8. Do you foresee any need for curriculum changes in your discipline in the next five years? In the next ten years?
  - a. [IF YES:] What curriculum changes do you believe are necessary for your discipline?
9. Based on your experience at the college, is there any new or additional technology that is necessary for your discipline in the next five years? In the next ten years?
  - a. What technology changes or advancements do you believe are necessary in your discipline? Why?
10. Do you believe any additional facilities will be needed for your discipline in the next five years? In the next ten years?
  - a. What additional facilities do you believe are necessary for your discipline in the future? Why?
11. Do you foresee the need for any additional staffing in your discipline in the next five years? In the next ten years?
  - a. [IF YES:] How many additional full-time faculty members will be needed?
  - b. How many additional support staff will be needed?
12. Are there any areas in which your discipline could link curriculum to courses in other disciplines in the future?
  - a. To which courses or disciplines could curriculum be linked?
  - b. What do we need to do to accomplish this?

13. Do you think the College is organized effectively?
  - a. What would you change about the College to make it more efficient in its operations?
14. Are support services for your activities adequate?
  - a. What do you need that you don't currently have in the way of instructional support?

#### C: Wrap-Up

Those are all the questions I have. Is there anything else that you would like to say about your discipline or the college?

[IF TIME ALLOWS:] Thank you for taking the time to share your opinions and ideas about the college and your discipline now and in the future. Just to recap what was expressed during our discussion...

[INSERT MAIN POINTS FROM DISCUSSION NOTES]...

Thank you again for your input and feedback. The experiences shared and opinions you expressed here today will help shape the college's educational master plan and future direction.