Planning and Feedback Session

The purpose of this session was to gather information about significant topics which Eastern Illinois University needs to address in our planning process.

**What would make EIU first choice for faculty, staff and students?**

**Top five:**
1. Pleasant working environment (people)
2. Benefits
3. Accountability for staff and faculty
4. Improved academic advising
5. More in town activities for students
6. Quality vs. price

**All Comments:**
1. Pleasant working environment (people) - 19
2. Accountability for staff and faculty - 15
3. Benefits - 14
4. Improved academic advising - 11
5. Quality vs. Price - 9
6. More in town activities and dining for students - 9
7. Textbook rental - 9
8. School Pride - 9
9. Pay - 8
10. Better Post Graduate Employment - 8
11. Shopping - 7
12. Commitment to academics - 7
13. Staff Training - 7
14. More involvement for students living off campus and non-traditional students - 6
15. Advancement opportunities - 6
16. Safety of Campus - 6
17. Nutritional offerings (dining) - 5
18. Laptop rental program for all students - 4
19. Research facilities/opportunities - 4
20. Open communication - 4
21. Installment payment plans for students - 4
22. Need to update facilities - 4
23. Internships/apprenticeships for students - 4
24. Customer Service - 4
25. More alumni involvement - besides donations - 4
26. Location-transportation-parking - 3
27. Small student to teacher ratio - 3
28. More grants and outside funding - 3
29. More campus activities for students - 3
30. Availability of choices - 2
31. Strong study abroad program - 2
32. Internship advertising, availability/creation - 2
33. Better sidewalks/wider - 2
34. Better publication of scholarships and grants - 2
35. Diversity - 2
36. Better recognition for staff - 1
37. Housing costs - 1
**What can be done to improve academic quality and scholarship across campus?**

**Top five:**
1. Maintain admission standards
2. Better recognition of achievements
3. Accountability of faculty departments
4. Continuing education for faculty/staff
5. Improve academic advising

**All Comments:**
1. Accountability of faculty/departments – 18
2. Improve academic advising – 16
3. Maintain admission standards – 15
4. Continue to improve technology – 14
5. Continuing Education for faculty and staff – 13
6. Increase English speaking abilities for students and **faculty** – 10
7. More marketing of different of departments & programs to attract more students & scholarship opportunities – 9
8. Keep small class size – 9
9. E-textbooks – 9
11. Focus on academic achievements not just athletic – 8
12. Central location for scholarships – 7
13. Raise limit on allowable textbook cost to increase faculty’s selection – 5
14. Efficient Success Center – 4
15. Online Academic Help – Tutoring – 3
16. Expand alumni programs outreach to current students - culture to promote strengthened transition for more active alumni – 3
17. Explore opportunities with other state universities – 3
18. More student employment co-op opportunities to address lack of family contributions – 3
19. Information for classes that lead to licensing and certification – 3
20. Some faculty not happy with quality/selection of textbooks – 2
21. Pick priority/core departments – 1
22. Look for accreditation opportunities-1
What is thing we need to change at EIU that would enable us to be a great institution?

Top five:
1. Communication
2. Cutting Costs
3. Move away from ‘use it or ‘lose it’ funding mentality
4. Increase School Pride and Spirit
5. Need Improved academic advising

All:
1. Communication – 21
2. Finding ways to cut costs (operating costs) top to bottom – 18
3. More evening on-campus classes, less off campus satellite classes – 18
4. Move away from use it or lose it funding mentality – 11
5. Improve academic advising – 10
6. Increase school spirit – 8
7. Improve climate control in facilities – 8
8. Promote achievement from academics not athletics – 8
9. More online class options – 8
10. More sense of community in the community – 7
11. Professional development for staff – 7
12. Wider variety of class time options – 7
13. Modern facilities including Residence Halls – 6
14. Increased pride by the entire school community – 6
15. Updated Internal Governing Policies – 5
16. Defined vision – 4
17. Figure out how to offer a better total student ‘experience and life’ – 4
18. More commitment to EIU by faculty/staff – 2
19. Student-centric approach – 2
20. Operate more as business – 2
21. Better/more activities at Student Union – 1
What are 2 emerging issues that we can anticipate, that we will have to deal with effectively if we are going to thrive in the future?

Top five:
1. Protection of employee retirement and insurance
2. Reduce spending and travel
3. Bad test taker does not mean bad employee
4. Loss of knowledge base through retirement
5. Testing and hiring, civil service process – HR testing office

All:
1. Protection of employee and insurance - 13
2. Reduce spending and travel – 11
3. Bad test taker does not mean bad employee – 10
4. Testing and hiring, civil service process – HR testing office – 10
5. Loss of knowledge base through retirement – 10
6. Budget issues – 8
7. Merit raises – 8
8. Better communication about changes – 7
9. Operational costs – 6
10. Technology in the classroom and the office setting – 5
11. Decreasing benefits – 5
12. Higher costs of attending college – 5
13. Decreasing public funding in face of opposition to raising tuition and fees – 5
14. Continuously changing laws – 4
15. Increase compensation for lost benefits – 4
16. Cost of attendance - 4
17. Modern facilities with increase technology – 4
18. Rising operational costs – 4
19. Increase workload without compensation – 4
20. More training for staff – 4
21. Retaining qualified or recruiting staff with decrease in benefits/offerings – 3
22. Keeping up with technology – 3
23. Technology in offices – 3
24. On-line courses – 3
25. Non replacement of retirees – 3
26. Increase cost of living – 3
27. Attracting quality students, staff and faculty – 3
28. Access to quality resources – 3
29. More global – 3
30. Better working conditions – 3
31. College degrees require for good employment – 2
32. Lack/more motivation – 2
33. Economic issues/international issues – 2
34. Competition – 2
35. Shared vision – 2
36. Declining number of living on campus students – 2
37. Tuition rates – 1
38. Regulations increasing – 1
What is the most vital core value that EIU should preserve?

Top five:
1. Customer Service
2. Departmental Communication
3. Preserve low tuition rates
4. Quality staff and leadership
5. People

All:
1. Customer Service – 14
2. Preserve low tuition rates – 12
3. Departmental communication - 12
4. Quality staff and leadership – 11
5. People -11
6. Textbook rental – 10
7. Students first – 10
8. Quality instructors – 8
9. Small class sizes – 8
10. Respected degree – 8
11. Relationship with community – 8
12. Self-sufficient not depending on State – 8
13. Family feel across campus – 7
14. Tree outside Old Main – 7
15. Staff retention – 6
16. Empowerment – 5
17. Confidentiality – personal – 5
18. University history – 5
19. Small but quality education – 4
20. Low cost parking – 4
21. Continued updates to emergency procedures – 4

Do you have any questions for the Steering Committee?
1. Implementation? Will it happen?
2. Plan Transparency?
3. How much control does EIU truly have control over?