

## Engagement and Data Gathering Session

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**Group:** Faculty Senate

**SPT Partners:** Kelly Noe, Robin Johnson

**Date:** November 12, 2014

**Design:** SWOT/Carousel

**Attendees:** 20

### KEY DATA:

The numbers in parenthesis are how many checks the original statement got showing agreement.

#### 1. Strengths

- a. Faculty with real life experiences in their field (7)
- b. Student/teacher rapport (6)
- c. Pretty campus (6)
- d. High quality programs (5)
- e. Enthusiastic faculty (4)
- f. Various teaching delivery methods (face to face, online, etc.) (4)
- g. Smaller class size means more hands on learning (4)
- h. Safe community (2)
- i. Dual credit opportunities for students (2)
- j. Regional appeal (1)
- k. Diversity on campus (1)
- l. Offering student educational quality comparable to small private colleges

#### 2. Weaknesses

- a. Low faculty salaries (9)
- b. Culture of contempt toward faculty by some board members and administrators (7)
- c. Students who no longer read (6)
- d. Students who cannot write and have no concept of a research paper (5)
- e. No longer the "bargain" it once was. SFA now costs other comparable universities (5)
- f. Increasing enrollment without increasing full-time positions (4)
- g. Time available for faculty research (4)
- h. Lack of local "college culture" forcing students to leave every weekend (2)
- i. General lack of awareness and knowledge about SFA (outside Nacogdoches and university) (2)
- j. High teaching loads (2)

- k. Utilization of internal resources (1)
- l. Students graduating with little to no confidence or ideas of what to do next (1)
- m. Lack of scholarships for students (1)
- n. Lack of academic “pride” among students
- o. No unified vision on what we want to be (big university, better athletics/academics)

### **3. Opportunities**

- a. Involving students in research (5)
- b. Collaboration/partnerships with local school districts (3)
- c. On-campus recreation (2)
- d. MSN in nursing (2)
- e. Collaboration with community colleges (2)
- f. Enthusiastic alumni (1)
- g. Possibility of new exciting curriculum (1)
- h. Tablet initiative-bringing 21<sup>st</sup> C technology into the classroom and enabling students to have better connectivity outside class
- i. Lots of fraternities and sororities

### **4. Threats**

- a. Too much time spent on assessment (11)
- b. Top-down “done deal” decisions about faculty without faculty input (5)
- c. Too insular in decision making process (4)
- d. Lack of scholarships (4)
- e. Resources focused more on non-academic issues (3)
- f. Lack of communication between admin & faculty (3)
- g. Fear that doing the right thing (on campus) will piss off the wrong people (3)
- h. Faculty-faculty bullying (3)
- i. Tuition costs rising to quickly (2)
- j. Decreasing funding sources (2)
- k. Possibility of online teaching “stipends” going away (2)
- l. Other learning organizations (ex. Other colleges, Khahn academy, etc.) (1)
- m. Online teaching stipends