

Administrative Planning Seminar – Roundtable discussion report
Wednesday, June 25, 2008

What concerns or challenges face SJU?

Table #1

- a. Academic rigor
- b. Work ethic of students
- c. Fragmentation of faculty because of separate campus

Table #2

- a. Pricing ourselves out of our market
 - i. What is our market?
 - ii. How does our mission relate to our market
- b. Resources to maintain our growth and expansion
 - i. Technology resources and support
- c. Need for better communication and collaboration between different divisions
 - i. CAS & HSB
 - ii. Academic Affairs & Student Life
- d. Lack of understanding of internal processes

Table #3

- a. Actually we do this well/we don't talk about it well. Change stance with respect to how we address our discussion concerning the relations between community/SJU. There is a certain "othering" of the Philadelphia community
 - i. The treat is from outside the community. Students need to work with Overbrook/Wynnefield residents on safety, parking, etc.
- b. Re-phrase presentations – e.g. don't begin discussions re: SJU/community relations with discussions of security. Also joint neighborhood watches
- c. This provides incredible opportunities for us to be truer to our "lived" mission and to "walk the talk" regarding diversity e.g. by fully demonstrating that we are the guests in our surrounding community.

Table #4

- a. Cost of deferred maintenance for new facilities after initial expenses have been met.
- b. Cost to keep pace with all the changes: facilities, security, extra staffing, grounds.
- c. Contingency plans for downturns in enrollment and other financial shortfalls.
- d. Overburdening current employees to meet the increased workloads.
- e. Control and manage growth in all areas.

Table #5

1. Communication
 - a. To the students on Maguire Campus. Need to include in orientation that the campus exists, what areas they can go to and which areas are available to them NOW.
2. Affordability
 - a. Impact on Diversity
 - b. Parent investment / value of that investment.
3. Parent affordability and their expectation that they get the best bang for buck.
 - a. e.g. Off campus housing or Triples for their child.
4. Diversity – continue to educate the community and seek opportunities to improve on campus.

Table #6

1. Decrease in student's demand
2. Escalating tuition and /or operational costs
3. Risk of disaster or safety infringement
4. Aging infrastructure/replacement costs
5. Stress on staff/resources with capital projects and growth
6. Loss of leadership
7. Weakening economy-effect on capital campaign

Table #7

1. Student health – impact on learning (Physical, Mental, Spiritual)
2. We respond to problems but aren't proactive
 - i. This is an opportunity –e.g. to add health education/programs
 - ii. Add a health educator
3. Students need help with life skills (e.g. balance checkbook, fill a prescription)
4. Need more staff for growing programs –esp. in student services
5. Emphasis is on undergraduates, but graduate and University College are also significant populations
6. Rising costs of construction and operating costs.

What solutions can you propose for those challenges?

Table #2

1. Be more efficient and spend resources that provide the greatest value
2. No unilateral decisions-more joint conversations and decision making
3. Better internal communications

Table #3

1. Increasing academic rigor-perceptions from several constituencies, academic (faculty, library) and non-academic (student life), that many assignments are not challenging intellectually.
2. Strengthen connections between student life (including library-though it is really an academic branch) but especially the dorms and activities and the academic portion of student experience.

Table #4

1. Hire new employees. Hiring new employees so that current employees are not stretched to the limit.

Table #5

1. Communicate proactively at orientation, through web face book page for class of 2012. And use Residence Hall Programming to communicate.
2. Emphasis career outcomes, statistics on alumni profiles, etc.
 - a. Emphasize the Jesuit difference, career services studies and success stories. Publish surveys. Publish long term career experience including socialization benefits – work hard and play hard.
3. If we are apologizing (for size of Class of 2010)that is not good. Share the concept of community, send message that this is okay. Emphasize the benefits of several roommates and getting along.
 - a. Create programs to get the students out of the cramped rooms. e.g. Library studying, RL programs, community service, etc.
 - b. Offer incentives for those in housing that is not the standard.
 - c. Blend some of the success stories into orientation. e.g. That we have tripled before, we have Lancaster Court and it has worked for a few years.
 - d. Capture the parent audience and make them believe this is not a bad thing – we at SJU have taken on this challenge and will be successful.
4. Diversity awareness has definitely improved with Father Lannon and Valerie Dudley. Need to continue to offer employee, student, and faculty programs.

Table #6

1. Sr. leadership keeping the University community focused-increased communication
2. Expand market and marketing opportunities
3. Continue to evaluate needs/wants of the entire University and weigh each

Table #7

1. Be aware of research in this area and use it to guide policy/action
2. Generally need more staff/resources in many areas

What additional opportunities are there for SJU?**Table #1**

1. Kinesiology program

Table #2

1. Barnes Foundation move
2. More revenue generating opportunities should be available

Table #4

1. Recruit students who meet the profile we want for the class-increase selectivity

Table #5

1. Study abroad
2. "Not for Spectators"
3. Co Op – need to promote
4. Service Learning Programs
5. Ethics throughout curriculum
6. Expansion – sports – intramurals -- think bigger and get out of high school comfort zone
7. Make something out of this college education – you are intelligent and that is why you are here at SJU.
8. Men and Women for others.
9. Summer Scholars and Connections – show case studies
10. Diversity
11. AACSB
12. Phi Beta Kappa

Table #6

1. Continue to evaluate existing programs and explore new programs to meet the changing needs of prospective students
2. Continue to grow philanthropy with donors
3. Research alternative revenue streams – maximizing classroom space in summer?
4. (concerns & opportunities) Evaluate/assess who we are? – use as a measurement of success
5. Mission driven and market smart
6. Continue to evaluate and enhance the student experience
7. Continue to grow PT, certificate and non-credit and on-line programs