

Northland Pioneer College Planning Committee Focus Group Activity
Friday, August 27, 2004

Group #3: (Workforce survey and development planning) “Are we teaching what our students/communities need and want? Or are we teaching what we think they should have?” Facilitators: Henderson/Mack

- More assessment of the courses we offer
- More department-specific (assessment?)
- More involvement from centers (2)
- We are doing a good job (in) ITP
- Break down political barriers (7)
 - Com --- Schools
 - Diné --- NPC
 - (No more turf wars)
- Work more closely with the tribes' WIAs
- Lower class caps for cuts (7)
 - And allow better salary adjustments
- Must offer classes needed for graduation
- Stop encouraging late registration
- Teach multiple learning strategies
- Accommodate students' schedules (7)
 - (more evening, short term courses)
- Local and statewide labor market
- Economic development co-op
- More community outreach meetings (5)
 - Make sure more NPC personnel attend to answer questions and address issues
- Prepare students to enter industry, etc. (foot in the door) (4)
- Formal community surveys of community wants (6)
- Survey previous students (tracking) (3)
- More adequate staffing (4)
- Make sure of articulation for transfer (3)
- Survey industry (3)
- Publicize that we will survey community wants (4)
- Teach all the classes that are in the catalog
- Follow-up on recs
- Expand course offerings to attract more students
- Better communication with blue collar population
- At the centers: more classrooms, more facilities, more faculty (5)
- Recognize that each community is different & has different interests (3)
- More formal agreements with agencies and other institutions
- Not offering the courses we promise in the catalog
- Support faculty who wish to change class medium/format (3)
- Offer more live gen ed to recognize differing learning styles

- More center control over course offerings (3)
- More personal enrichment courses; staff through better recruitment
- “Centers of excellence”