UD Presidential Search

Preliminary Summary of Focus Groups, Open Forums, and Meetings with Senior Leadership

June 12, 2015
Major Themes

- Vision, strategy, and goals
- Financial sustainability
- Diversity and inclusion
- External / public relations
- Internal relations
- Future of education
Vision, Strategy, and Goals

• A shared definition of who we are / our identity and who we want to be
• Continued development of the STAR campus
• Increased STEM enrollments
• Pursue AAU membership
• Greater affordability and access
• Focus on sustainability and environmental awareness
• Address issues of binge drinking and sexual assault
Financial Stability

- Continued focus on the business side of education
- Continued strong fund raising, with coordinated effort in asking alumni to donate
- Spending priorities aligned with the strategy
- Adoption of best practices in higher education budgeting
Diversity and Inclusion

• Increased level of diversity among students, faculty, and staff
• Increased support to ensure success of diverse students, faculty, and staff
• Increased outreach to non-conventional students such as working parents
External / Public Relations

- Regular, two-way communication transparency
- Continued strong engagement with alumni
- Effective state government / legislator relationships
- Strong community engagement and outreach throughout the state
- Tell the UD story better; ensure external audiences are aware and engaged
- Continued growth of active donor base
Internal Relations

• Inclusive decision making and shared governance
• Interdisciplinary collaboration
• Alignment of faculty and staff around the strategy
• Regular and open communication; a culture of transparency
Future of Education

• A focus on pragmatic education that prepares graduates for jobs and furthers economic development
• Attention to progressive teaching methods, redefinition of learning experiences such as online learning, and experiential learning such as externships
• Effective use of technology to bend the cost curve in higher education