Road Map to the Future
Engagement Session

Strengthening Community Connections
“What We Heard”
March 30, 2022

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Diane Stephens, Academic Resources and Planning
Jason Wang, Physical Plant Management
Today’s Meeting
What We’ve Heard

- Brief Overview of Road Map to the Future
- Presentation of our information gathering regarding the theme: *Strengthening Community Connections*
- Discussion with the goal of moving toward strategic direction(s)
Road Map to the Future
Strengthening Community Connections

- Session Structure
- General discussion
- Conversational Values/Group Norms (from EAB)

- Engage with the work and this group
- First draft thoughts are encouraged
- Speak from your own experience
- Be open to explore new ideas
What is Road Map to the Future?

- The next step as a result of President Beck’s 100-day Listening Tour
- A Steering Committee composed of students, faculty & staff are working together to design and carry out a campus-wide, inclusive process to find common ground, build on existing achievements, and frame big ideas with an equity lens for CSUN’s future.
Road Map Strategic Directions

- Discussions
- Surveys
- Other Input
Road Map to the Future
Planned Final Product

• First Strategic Direction (described in 1 or 2 sentences)
  • Examples and Opportunities for this Strategic Direction (described in a paragraph)

• Second Strategic Direction
  • Examples and Opportunities for this Strategic Direction (described in a paragraph)

• ...
Focuses on external campus connections and our impactful work in the community. From President Beck’s Listening Report:

- CSUN’s role in the health and vitality of our local community and economy
- Partner in addressing social and economic challenges and provide students with opportunities to lead meaningful and impactful change
- Our work is transformative, and it critically important that we share our work with the greater world of higher education.
- Our work doesn’t just impact individual lives, it changes family trees and elevates entire communities. Serves as the great equalizer in our shared pursuit of racial and social justice for all.
Road Map to the Future
Strengthening Community Connections
Data Collection (to date)

- Surveys (62 respondents*)
  - Demographics:
    - Faculty (19)
    - Staff & Administrators (16)
    - Students (19)
    - Alumni (8)

- Focused conversations (75 participants)
  - 5 Zoom sessions with faculty, staff, alumni, and students
  - 1 in-person session with faculty and staff

*As of 3/18/2022
“The more we can do to reach out and engage the community we serve (greater Los Angeles), the better we serve the values of DEI we care about. The problem has been that I think, historically, we simply haven't been as good about engaging with the community as we need to be and by engaging with the community, I mean beyond a select group of alumni, donors, and local business organizations. We need to do more to connect directly with the entire L.A. community at all levels and, if we succeed in doing that, our engagement will be better aligned with our values related to DEI.”

Quote from a Survey Respondent
WHAT WE’VE HEARD—BIGGEST COMMON POINTS

POINTS OF PRIDE

• We are the heart of the Valley! We make cultural and artistic impacts for the community.
• We have programs, centers, and services that have significantly affect the community.
• We have a beautiful campus.
• We are a resource for the surrounding community.
• We create opportunities for social mobility through education, community engagement, and employment.
• WHAT WE’VE HEARD—BIGGEST COMMON POINTS

• WHAT NEEDS IMPROVEMENT
  • **Navigation**: Ability to navigate seamlessly to campus and find your destination within; need a geographic front door and possible community gathering space (e.g., welcome center); public transportation (esp. last mile) to the campus
  • **Information**: Uneven access to information on programs and services from our web site; suggestion to provide resource repository; we could tell our story better; family-student-campus connections
  • **Policies**: Administrative policies and barriers to success including things like “red tape” for community engagement and internships
What we’ve heard...

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  1. What is new information for you?
  2. What surprised you or stands out about the information?
  3. What is missing?
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As we start to discuss possible strategic directions, think about, whether our ideas:

- Are university-wide and can be framed at a high level
- Are aspirational
- Capture our core values (i.e., diversity, equity, inclusion, social justice)
- Lead to the naming of strategic directions (versus specific initiatives)
1. Reflecting on what you learned from today’s discussion, what should CSUN’s aspirations be in order to advance, enhance, and/or improve our culture of inclusive excellence by strengthening community connections?
2. Can these aspirations be framed at the 10,000 ft level?
   a. Do these ideas point to a specific priority or set of priorities?
   b. If you were to step back and frame this from a much higher level aspirational strategic direction, what would that be?
Road Map to the Future
Strengthening Community Connections

REFLECTION/ELEVATOR SPEECH
Want to share more ideas?
Go to
www.csun.edu/provost/road-map-future
And click on Share Your Input
Road Map to the Future

Thank you!