

Teaching and Learning Strategic Planning Survey Results

There is a committee representing UWSP faculty and staff who are developing a strategic plan for the development and support of teaching and learning on our campus. In an effort to garner critical faculty and staff input, the committee would like you to respond to the following two questions (please discuss at your tables and have one person record input/ideas on this form to be collected):

1. What do you currently see or experience that demonstrates UWSP is a place that values and supports teaching and learning?

- Teaching and Learning Conference (mentioned multiple times), suggestion to hold it twice per year
- Excellence in Teaching Award
- CPS Café Chats
- CPS Teaching Partners Program
- Technology Suite in CPS
- COLS grants to support education
- Undergraduate research symposiums
- Tutoring and Learning Center
- Senior leadership that supports teaching
- Dona Warren's Initiative on Critical Thinking
- The thinking that "Everyone has a role in educating students"
- Lighter load for new faculty in 1st semester, they aren't assigned advisees right away)
- Library – introduction/information sessions, book resources, and e-reserves
- Opportunities to develop new courses
- Faculty put focus on teaching and learning
- Mary Mielke
- WI Teachers and Scholars Program and support
- Summer professional development opportunities
- Resources committed to General Education
- Getting thank you comments from students through cards and emails
- Getting iPads
- Revision of the Gen Ed program is great
- UWSP focuses on undergraduate education and does a good job preparing them for grad school and vocations
- Classes are taught by profs, not TAs
- New Faculty Fair is good
- Focus on teaching in tenure and promotion
- Acceptance of SoTL as research
- Support for instructional technology like D2L (Mary Mielke) and clickers
- Faculty know their students
- Dedicated professors that think about teaching and how to improve their classes
- People willing to share ideas (like Paula DeHart)
- Openness of upper administration to students for projects like student designs for student center

2. What would you like to see or experience that would demonstrate UWSP is a place that values and supports teaching and learning?

- Return of CAESE (mentioned multiple times)/Centralized core for teaching and learning, including staff and support
- Faculty center for conferences, lunches, meetings
- On-campus facilitator for service learning experiences and more structure for these projects
- More professional development workshops

- More financial support for professional development
- More resources and spaces
- Sabbatical and course release opportunities for teaching improvement
- Funding for travel to teaching conferences
- Space, time, and food for discussion/development
- Resources on/from Academic Excellence that are easily accessible, short step-by-step explanations
- Formal mentorship program
- Online Camtasia course about how to write a syllabus
- Smaller class sizes
- 3 – 3 teaching load or even 4 – 3
- More curricular integration
- Partnership Locator (e.g. “classified ads” on website for finding colleagues interested in some sort of dialogue)
- Teaching Best Practices
- Campus newsletter on teaching and learning
- MOD doesn’t work well for communicating teaching and learning opportunities – there are many opportunities that people just don’t hear about
- Put advising back in teaching, not service
- SoTL doesn’t get the respect it should
- Mentorships for faculty – campus wide Teaching Partners Program
- Dedicated time for professional development, where nothing else is going on
- More online access of courses
- Use of assessment of students to change and improve what we do
- Load release for course development
- Training in peer evaluation
- Maintain reasonable class size for classes that focus on Comm (what used to be WE)
- Experienced teachers need to teach foundation courses, not new and experienced professors and adjuncts
- More and better communication about programs like Dona’s Critical Thinking Initiative and Wisconsin Teaching Fellows Project
- Support for cross-college collaboration (SCH isn’t set up to support this)
- More emphasis on life-long learning: opportunities for students to return and experiences for which they will want to return
- Getting feedback from students about their learning progress (without constant prompting and not just at the end of the semester)
- Training and mentoring for adjuncts
- Resources, space, and money for paying student employees (unfortunately \$ is bottom line)
- Professional development on D2L
- Information on what the “good teachers” are doing (like teaching award winners talking about what they do)
- More emphasis on skills (reading, writing, critical thinking)
- Different approach to student evaluations (not just using questions 11 and 18)
- Streaming of lectures for enhanced student access
- Hybrid of on-line and classroom formats for “bottleneck” courses
- Creating a culture of student discussion groups (students talking to each other about what they are doing like study groups and self-directed learners)
- Less bottom line focus on making education like a business and fund raising, education isn’t a business