

Participant Comments from November 17, 2005 Leaders' Forum

1. To what degree was the session a good use of your time?

- Good information
- Well presented
- Gives greater meaning to our jobs
- It is a great communication tool so we know what's going on
- Good opportunity to meet leaders I haven't met and connect with some I already know
- Good networking
- Good stuff but 2hr perhaps 30min too long – busy time of year
- PPD – we seem to be at the bottom of the food chain!
- Informative
- Colleague at my table verbally praised the work of the unit I am employed in. It's nice to hear good words.
- This type of forum is imperative for a high functioning institute. Communications, communications, communications are also my priority this year and we must do better at multi-directional communications. The openness of senior management is appreciated!

2. To what degree was the information shared useful to you in your role?

- Not all aspects relate to us but a lot did and all was useful to some degree
- New to this role, so it was a great opportunity
- It is always useful to know what the focus of the University is.
- Heavy emphasis on Graduate student enrolment → would like to hear more on undergraduate support.
- Keeping up to date on the processes that are top priority at the administrative level.
- The spirit of and the emphasis on collaboration between faculty, staff and students is key to enhancement of the University. This emphasis is properly placed and appreciated!
- Great information given
- Part of my role includes B&G, Chemistry, Westminster, Biotron operations

3. How effective were the presentations? Comments:

- A campus map would help to explain locations of new and renovated building projects
- Paul's presentation is very global. Ted and Fred were very/more specific
- Summarize speeches a bit – they were a bit too long
- Helps us to be aware of the University's mission, vision etc and thus more easily incorporate these into our planning and daily tasks
- Particularly like how Ted Hewitt did his presentation when Fred Longstaffe was delayed – conveyed sense of good team
- Interesting to hear about the "Internationalization" emphasis/directive.
- Ted and Fred should have had some slides to reinforce/illustrate their points
- Dr. Hewitt and Dr. Longstaffe's presentations would have been improved by having slides
- I appreciate the candid responses and presentations. All presenters were able to articulate their visions. I felt privileged to be here. They were humble and humorous. Thank you!
- Clear and interesting presentations.
- Fred has a good grasp of what the needs are of – often- competing groups (staff, faculty, students)! It was wonderful to hear him express the need for more service learning and to acknowledge that learning environments exist outside the classroom. Yes!
- Produced a lot of ideas to discuss further (synergy)
- Gitta – very informative towards my ownership at Western

4. How effective was the organization of today's session?

- Appreciate having sufficient question time
- Excellent!
- Shorter speeches and more time for questions/comments and dialogues

- As always, great!
- Would have liked time for additional dialogue
- Questions immediately after presentation are very effective.
- Well planned. Thanks
- More time could have been allowed for questions.

5. Information from today I'd like us to discuss further at another Leaders' Forum is...

- How to drive quality from a budget perspective
- Research strategic plan
- Continued update of space allocation
- Increase in graduate enrolment & how best to make it a quality experience especially professional programs
- Engagement of student, staff and faculty
- Efforts in how to integrate more departments/services to better student experience and increase efficiency
- Spacing/traffic flow/access of all to new buildings?
- Student voice
- Further reports from the Space Planning Group
- More details!
- Graduate Students – activities, funding, recruitment, administration from Grad Studies perspective
- Internationalization
- Support services building planned completion date and schedule
- Funding for Grad Students (central admin at Faculty levels)
- Space planning, aboriginal program, conservation at Western
- Next steps in strategic planning (progress)
- Capital projects
- Space planning!
- Would like a presentation for the President of USC – from the student voice
- In December I think it would be really neat to hear people's success stories. Not necessarily from departments or units, through people from all over.
- Continued updates on changes
- Processes for consultation with the University community on visions (referenced by Provost)
- Growth of the University and how it will be managed. Minimize disconnect among faculty, staff, students.
- How do you reconcile keeping the natural/green environment with the new building growth?
- Student internship development.
- Space planning
- Taking competition, innovation, best student experience into account, where does the internet and distance learning fit into the future
- Vision of Western for New Academic Plan
- How to engage students and staff in the research aspects of the university – some practical strategies.
- Cross-disciplines and community initiatives – process to welcome/encourage collaborative projects
- Sustaining international and interdisciplinary efforts when necessary to support from a distance or need to coordinate multiple efforts.
- Strategic plan and how we are going to implement the process of open communication throughout the players of the difficult groups employed at Western
- Internationalization
- Integrating research into the classroom/our communication materials

6. What drew me to attend this meeting was...

- To hear the ideas/focus of the senior leadership groups
- Topic, networking opportunities
- Hearing from senior management
- Information provided on academic and administrative side, which helps me understand and support each side – understanding is the key

- To learn the thinking/plans of senior administration
- Strategic planning
- To hear from our leaders
- Involved from the beginning and really enjoy the networking aspect
- Whole review of strategic direction of the University
- Facilitating
- The agenda for Fred and Gitta. I was very pleased to hear what they had to say. I found today's session very positive and motivating. Thank you.
- Want to increase my knowledge of overall UWO strategy and leadership team.
- Information sharing
- Learning all the up to date info from a corporate university perspective
- Always participate in this program...worthwhile
- Networking opportunity
- Opportunity to learn about University's goals and objectives
- Information on plans for future.
- Ted Hewitt speaking, Gitta speaking – space
- Facilitation
- Meeting other leaders, seeing the University's visions and ideas
- Newly appointed PMA member
- Topics on the agenda
- Being a new administrator at Western
- Email
- Strategic planning
- My leadership role!
- Communication to understand the future direction of the University
- Future direction and planning for Western
- Networking and peers
- The communication with other units, people and their stories.
- Hearing the strategic plan.
- Curiosity; opportunity to meet others (network)
- Learning
- Enjoy attending all of them and find value in all of them.
- It is always useful and good to meet new colleagues.
- Opportunity to know more about Western's plans for the future.
- Presentations by Paul, Ted, Fred
- To hear an update on Fred and Paul's vision
- Strategic planning and operations update
- Information, need to be up to date
- The opportunity to learn more about the future direction of UWO
- Invitation
- The opportunity to meet other campus leaders and hear from Fred Longstaffe (inspiring and refreshing!)
- Future plans of the space on campus
- Attend most noon hour leader programs
- There were 3-4 VP's taking the time to speak and answer our questions
- Need to know where the University is headed
- Learning and ideas – keeping up to date.
- Desire to integrate content into Unit's strategic directions.
- Strategic plan and how it will affect me in my role
- Facilitator

7. I am planning to attend the December 22nd Leaders' Forum – celebration lunch, presentation, and dialogue, topic to be decided:

Yes, but it's a bad day. A week earlier is better.