

# SCHOOL OF NURSING TOWN HALL MEETING

November 14, 2011

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

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- Welcome by Betty Gallucci
- Remarks:
  - Marla Salmon
  - Ruth Johnston (Special Asst to the Provost)
  - Patricia Brandt (FCN)
  - Karen Schepp (PCH)
  - Margaret Heitkemper (BNHS)
  - Dagmar Schmidt (AS) on student leadership
  - PONS (Professional Organization of Nursing Students)
  - NeDS (Network of Doctoral Students)
  - GPSS (Graduate and Professional Student Senate)

An Instructor in attendance requested a synopsis of work groups so it could be shared with students who may want to participate.

## **Open for questions:**

Q: Is there an update on the Student Communications team?

A: The team is developing guidelines for communication of organizational changes. Students are welcome to join the team.

Q: Addressed to faculty regarding the business plan and task forces: Where does the faculty stand on this and what do they envision?

A: How does faculty feel about the changes? It's difficult, but a reality. We have come to realize we cannot do things as we have always done them. We are coming together and having open discourse regarding the future of the profession and financial resources. Openness was cited by consultants as an area where improvement is needed. We are working on it. We need as much input as we can get.

A: This is a true opportunity for creative thinking about the direction of the school. We have brilliant minds here among our students who are thinking about the future. Please participate and share those ideas with us.

A: As faculty we are experiencing a paradigm shift. It is new for us to think in terms of selling a product and thinking of students as consumers.

A: Faculty members have been remarkably committed and have been stepping up in impressive ways. We all have had to recalibrate and rethink the future. They are committed.

**Comment (DNP student 2011 cohort):**

I have no frame of reference of past losses and only see the wealth of resources.

A: What is no longer is the way we used to do business. What has been lost? We are focusing on what changes we can make together. The vision of a global health program could be seen as a loss or it could just be seen as wrong timing. The question is how to do it better. We should talk about what should be and how to attain that. Students can provide a fresh perspective.

A: The loss could be conceptualized as no longer being able to do anything one wants to do. We have faced the reality that we can no longer do and that we need to be selective. This is a painful loss.

Q. What was let go of?

A: In the case of graduate student projects, there is less individualization and more grouping of students of common interest or similar projects. Regarding faculty and where we are, sometimes we do not immediately share that information because we have not yet pulled those thoughts together. We may prefer to wait until something is ready to be shared.

Q: Which students are here who were not asked to be here specifically? (There was a show of hands by a fraction of the group.) Representation is not good at all. What mechanism have you seen work successfully to engage the participation of students?

A: A passion around a particular subject, opportunities to get involved, communication, and success (e.g., accomplishing something, feeling good about that, and communicating the success).

**Comment from GPSS:**

In other instances, information regarding the consolidation of departments and its specific impacts generated the participation of the students who were affected. So, communicating impacts to students may engage student participation.

A: Most of our students are technology oriented ("Millenials"). Help us to know what in what ways to reach you.

**Comment (PONS rep):**

Scheduled times made the meetings inaccessible to some students.