

Academic Programs and New Initiatives Task Force

November 15, 2008

Gustavus Presidents Dining Room

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Meeting #1 Web Summary

Welcome and Introductions

Chair, Becky Bergman welcomed the group and members introduced themselves by sharing what academic institutions they have been affiliated with in their life time.

Commission Gustavus 150 Overview and Task Force Ground Rules

An overview of Commission Gustavus 150 and specifics about the charge to the Task Force, process, timeline, and group rules were discussed.

Background Information

Facilitator Mary E. Morton provided an overview of current academic programs at Gustavus, expectations and desires of employers, and description of Millenials.

Group Discussion

The emphasis for the meeting was on the big questions and broad vision for Gustavus relating to academics. Members worked in small groups generating ideas around envisioning Gustavus in 10-15 years, including current programs/strengths to build upon and new ideas?

The group agreed that academic excellence and transformational experiences are the goal for all students, but did not have a clear definition of what these mean at Gustavus.

Most ideas gathered around the themes:

- Student experience
- Providing support for faculty development and resources for faculty classroom experience/research
- Possible programs/initiatives
- Connecting with alumni and lifelong learning
- Marketplace distinction