



DISCOVERING WHAT NIU GRADUATES SHOULD KNOW, VALUE, AND BE ABLE TO DO

Proposed baccalaureate goals
NIU Baccalaureate Review Task Force
September 2009

OVERVIEW

- What prompted the baccalaureate review?
- What did the task force do?
- What did people say?



NEED FOR CURRICULUM REVIEW



NIU's Strategic Planning Initiative identified the need for undergraduate curriculum review



BACCALAUREATE GOALS

Baccalaureate goals should drive the undergraduate curriculum, especially general education.



SUPPORT FOR BACCALAUREATE GOALS

Baccalaureate goals



TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

Includes over 40 students, faculty, staff, and administrators.

BACCALAUREATE REVIEW TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

College of Business	College of Health & Human Sciences	Administrators & Support Staff
Elisa Fredericks*	M.J. Blaschak	F Michelle Bringas*
Rebecca Shortridge	Greg Long* (Co-Chair)	James Brunson
	Mary Pritchard	Jes Cisneros*
	Josephine Umoren	Paul Crawford
College of Education	College of Liberal Arts & Sciences	Carolinda Douglass*
Alan Clemens	David Ballantine	Samantha M. Fisher
Jeffrey Hecht	Anne Birberick	Barbara Fouts*
Lucy Townsend*	Dave Changnon*	Wendell Johnson
Marc VanOverbeke	David Gorman	Nancy Kasinski
	Janice Hamlet	Murali Krishnamurthi*
	Jim Schmidt	Margie Myles
	Linda Sons	Deb Pierce
	Paul Stoddard*	Pamela Rosenberg
		Earl "Gip" Seaver* (Co-Chair)
		Donna Smith
College of Engineering & Engineering Technology	College of Visual & Performing Arts	Students
Brianno Collier	Sinclair Bell	Robert Sorsby*
Omar Ghrayeb*	Glenda Cosenza	Daniel Matousek*
Earl Hansen	Kerry Freedman	
Donald Zinger	Ed Klonoski	
	Jeff Kowalski*	

* = Steering committee member



TASK FORCE OBJECTIVES...



- **Process**—thorough and inclusive
- **Outcome**—propose baccalaureate goals

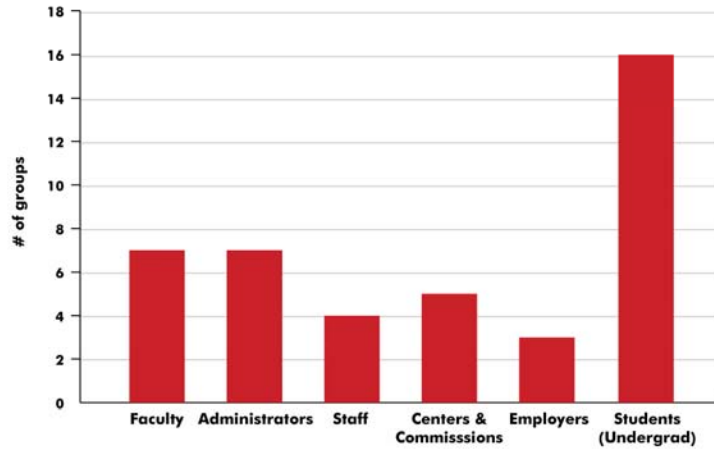


FEEDBACK SOUGHT FROM...

- **Students**
- **Faculty**
- **Staff**
- **Employers**
- **Administrators**
- **Centers and Commissions**
- **Parents**
- **Community colleges**

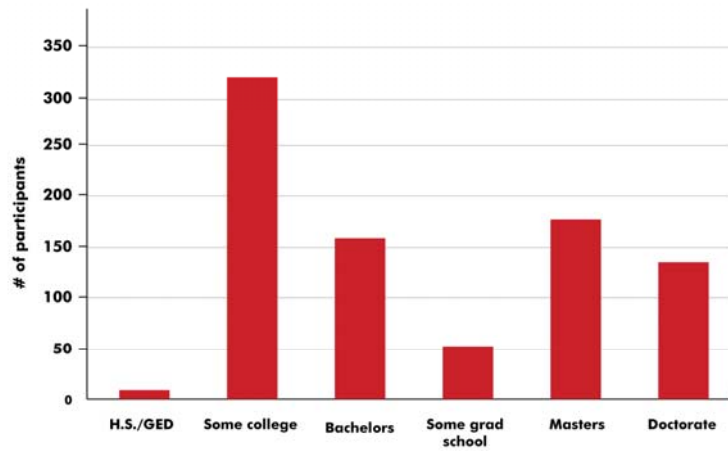


FOCUS GROUPS



NIU NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

ONLINE SURVEY



NIU NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

THE THREE CS

Critical Thinking

Communication

Context

NIU NORTHERN
ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY

CRITICAL THINKING

Most cited goal

Literacy

- Value reading and understand high-level content
- Write clearly
- Pursue life-long learning

Reflectivity

- Demonstrate personal awareness
- View learning as an ongoing cycle
- Reflect on and apply new-found knowledge

Information skills

- Find and evaluate information
- Make logical arguments
- Use reasoned thought and learning (scientific method)

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COMMUNICATION

Technology

- Master basic computer applications
- Use technology to facilitate communication

Language

- Master written English
- Speak clearly and professionally
- Communicate across cultural boundaries

Collaboration

- Work well with others
- Listen attentively
- Conduct meaningful exchanges



CONTEXT

Historical Context

- Use history to understand the present
- Know current events (considered in a historical context)
- Understand major social systems (economic, social, political)

Global Context

- Recognize interconnections among countries and other members of the global community
- Understand the United States' roles in the world
- Respect multiple perspectives

Social Context

- Contribute to society
- Demonstrate individual responsibility and initiative
- Seek diverse experiences and appreciate differences



FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Refine the goals
- Begin to...
 - Develop measurable goals and objectives
 - Identify potential assessment strategies
 - Discuss relationship to general education program

