

## External Factors affecting the College -- Guiding Questions

### Group 3

Facilitator: Rencelly Nelson

Recorder: Bruce Robert

Members: Joakim Peter, Penny Weilbacher, Robert Andreas, Lucy Oducao. Pencilynn Etse, Martin Mingii, Soledad Gozen-Reynozo.

1. a. What is the impact of low performance FSM economy on short term decision making for the college? b. What is the impact of the low performance FSM economy on long term decision making for the college? c. what are opportunities and challenges faced in this area?

1. c. Trim operation for short term. For short term we become reactionary to the FSM economy. Think creative and aggressive. Think outside the box. Be very realistic.

Creative in our approach to services. Be aggressive. Think differently on how we structured our services and our programs. Since we are only public HIE in FSM, we need to be more active and aggressive. Convince the national and state leaders to better utilize this national college since it is a national institution with a mission to develop the nation.

The stakeholders have needs that need to be met and with a funding that will carry the needs. And the college will serve that need. We need to serve the community in a way that will impact in a positive way.

Reality : Address the need of FSM in a way that will impact the FSM economy and the people. Generate the human resources.

Example. The Guam's Trade Academy on the build up in Guam. They came up with a proposal, meet with the right FSM leaders, and convince them on their program. Jojo explains more.

2. a. What actions/decisions making the college make to assist with promoting economic development? b. What actions/decisions make the college make to assist with developing manpower for the tradable sector? c) How would promoting a green college and curriculum impact the college? D) What are the opportunities and challenges faced in this area?

Suggestions:

Institute a Green curriculum which will be good for the college-programs and funding sources. We can adopt green curriculum from existing institutions'.

Take the lead in establishing center for nation's sustainability.

3. a. What is the impact on the college of the low performance of the FSM Trust Fund on the college? b) What is the impact on the college of the design of the FSM Trust Fund does not include PELL grant, SEG, US grant funds? c) What steps might be taken to address these issues? d) What are the opportunities and challenges faced in this area?

Suggestions

c. We lobby the negotiating team from FSM to request for continuation of PELL grant. We prioritize PELL grant to be one of the program for continuation funding. In-light of the trust fund depleting instead of increasing yearly as the indicators have referenced. Have a GREENER curriculum or program. Example: More programs on Technical and less on Liberal Arts programs. Post secondary academic skills are very much needed. Assessing our programs. Example: Library technician is very much need here in FSM. Agriculture program is also one that facing lots of negative factors.

We need to re-asses or continued to do program assessment and complete the whole cycle (closing the loop). To do more grant writing to address specific needs of the college. Come up with a office of grant writing to concentrate more on what grants are out there and how can we tab it for our specific programs. Resource Development through grants and external partnership with training. Ex. Japan brought lot of outboard motors and college provides this training (Jojo). We also need medical people to address the local needs of the community. Diversify our resources.

4. a) How does migration trends impact finances and planning for the college? b) How does trends in military recruiting affect finances and planning at the college? c) How does the trends in ECE—12 enrollments affect finances and planning for the college? d) What are the opportunities and challenges faced in this area?

Military recruiting opportunities. Migration. In terms of enrollment. There are areas of concerns, and by working together, we can turn things around. We as HIE should come up with a plan that would serve everyone. We should be part of a solution. We should serve the needs of the nation. Martin: We need to look at graduation rate, retention rate, and compare with the migration rate ... Enrollment of freshman is the source of funding for the college as returning student has a different status. 60% of our budget comes from new students enrolled in the college: revenue driving force of the college. We need to find out why students are going to other institutions instead of COM-FSM. Assess this. Take your first year at COM-FSM. And you can think about going to other institution. We need to know what are their needs and wants and based our programs catered toward their needs. Are we really giving them the quality education that they deserve to make them better and succeed?

Money matters are also important. COM-FSM is cheaper. We need to do a study on the external factors impacting our enrollment, graduation, retention, transfer, with emphasis on involving the external stakeholders.

Expand into a more of distance education

5. a) What steps can the college take to address the college readiness of high school graduates? b) What are the opportunities and challenges faced in this area?

Apply for GEAR UP, TSP, UB (US federal funded program) which is currently on-going. Bridging the gap program with the FSM government. Community development. Work more closely with state education on their curriculum. Have partnership with DOE (PNI & FSM). Seek partnership with institution in our regions and beyond: UOG, SDSU. External factors and competition comes from other institutions like UOG.

Make an effort to do more on outreach. Implement and make it practical.

6. What is the impact of the plans for FSM to use a portion of its share of the IDP for national projects? B) What is the impact on short and long term facilities planning if limited IDP funds are available for the college? c) What are the opportunities and challenges faced in this area?

Opportunities: Seek more foreign donors.

Work closely with our state government. It is their needs that we need to address and partnership on program and infrastructure. Share with their infrastructure development grant.