

Opportunities Outside of Cuts

Intervention Opportunities

- Increase awareness in prior learning (middle school, high school)
- Introduce programs in secondary school, perhaps use majors as ambassador to students
- Make early college programs via guidance counselors to recruit prospective students to programs
- Show students (and potential students) what job prospects there are for graduates of a program to debunk
- Collect stories from program graduates (follow up after graduation)
- Target those who didn't complete degree or have an Associate's degree only
- Help facilitate graduates in the job hunting process both locally and nationally

Online/Distance Programming

- Expand enrollment for online courses
- Open enrollment for online offerings - collaborate with UMA
- Online delivery needs improvement to work
- Use Polycom/ITV/Online courses to supplement gaps in majors where courses aren't offered locally

Ease of Access

- Create a system-wide brochure to reinforce collaboration and help students find programs
- Share each campus course catalog centrally (not just "our" catalog)
- System-wide major with many courses/options that lead to a degree
- System-wide degree completion
- Create a central clearinghouse with program information and details
- Provide better access to place-bound students
- Build standard collaboration model for ease of enrollment, compensation and IT resources
- Use online/distance education programs to ease access for place bound students to acquire certifications/fill

Community and Businesses

- Experiential or service learning
- Community engagement
- Increase study abroad opportunities among campuses
- Reach out to business for internships and work opportunities at large
- Business employer investment in training for prospects
- Co-op model: Semester and summer with investment from employers
- Host statewide contests to draw attention to the Universities (ie LEGO contest by Engineering)

Funding Opportunities and Concerns

- Have the System actively seek out donors and scholarships to help funding centrally
- Use staffed and centralized institute to leverage/lobby for money
- Equality in money for all promotions, not just STEM
- Find scholarships for non-traditional students that are program specific
- Find ways for field work to yield revenue
- Consider a flat fee vs. dollars per credit hour (within certain limits)
- Possibility of incentive scholarships to retain students in state
- Use untapped adjunct resources in UMM area

Program Ideas

Create a Unified Honors Society
Multi-semester internships that may require summer resources
Make science courses available system-wide
Look into more certificate programs
Develop program themes
Identify overlaps with other majors
Look into collaborations with private Universities and Community Colleges
Use Maine as a brand to help market programs
Capitalize on study abroad opportunities, both local region and further away
Coordinate internship opportunities with a database
Give students different "flavors" by rotating them through different sites

Structural Ideas

Look to other inter-campus models for ideas (ie Idaho, Georgia, Indiana)
Standardize and embed culture to reduce "culture shock" transition between campuses
Compile a list of UMS health related options for students not making academic progress
Synchronize academic calendars between campuses
Condense course time to reduce overall time in college (ie immersion courses, block scheduling, summer
Dynamic course modeling to expose students to multiple faculty and locations if appropriate for major
Restructure credit equivalence to encourage transfer students
Review the education model and consider what do students need from education vs. what we have always done
Create seamless transferability of courses and credits for all campuses
Utilize Community College for basic core courses
Run a core curriculum at every campus and add specialities by specific campuses