The West End Dining Open House was conducted in the entrance to the West End Dining hall on September 1, 2009 between the hours of 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The purpose of this open house was to gather input in an open forum to identify concerns and relevant issues relating to the ECU Comprehensive Plan. An electronic invitation went out campus-wide to invite students and faculty to discuss issues with the planning team.

The SmithGroup/JJR team solicited information through two simple, and engaging exercises. With the first exercise, attendees are asked to identify their favorite places on campus and least favorite places on campus. This exercise requires participants to vote using red (least favorite) and green (most favorite) dots on campus maps. Participants were given 2 red and 2 green dots to place on the maps. The SmithGroup/JJR team guides this exercise and gains an understanding of why these places are generally good or generally bad. The second exercise allows people to respond to with questions and concerns relating that address anything from campus image, transportation, security, student life, to buildings and facilities.

Participants are invited to “post” their thoughts by jotting their questions/concerns on “post-it notes” and sticking them to a comments board under the appropriate topics: “ECU is the best at,” “ECU could improve this,” “Rants & Raves.” This exercise allows people to voice what they value in a campus context from physical features and amenities, to topics such as safety and security.

Dot-voting and “Post-It” Exercises-
“Post-It” Exercise

The following responses were gathered from the “post-it” exercise:

“ECU is the best at…”

- Music
- A beautiful campus
- Athletics
- Campus Amenities (Recreation Center and West End Dining)
- “Closeness” of campus
- ECU Pride throughout Greenville
- Galley on College Hill
- Jarvis Hall, quiet and clean
- West End food is awesome
- Signage is good
- Cotton feels like home

“ECU could improve…”

- Health Services to Freshman
- Cultural Activities on Campus
- Bus schedules to run later/more frequently
- Healthy food options (2 comments)
- Classes later in the day
- Lighting and Security in evenings (around Library, Bates and Science & Tech area)
- Needs Wrestling Program
- Outdoor areas, courtyards, picnic areas. More outdoor living.
- Distance between residence halls, College Hill is too far from West End (2 comments)
- West End to College Hill bus route every 45 minutes too infrequent.
- Safe Ride not too reliable sometimes.
- Size of dorm rooms, quality of bathrooms (Cotton)
- Freshman parking lot location, Busses don’t run on weekends when needed. (3 comments)
• Lighting and Security (Library, Brewster, College Hill Steps, Mall) (3 comments)
• Articulating busses accommodated more students.
• Music Library could be bigger
• Improve outdoor lighting
• Fletcher Hall, Loud, RA’s not good, dirty
• Pedestrian Safety (10th street & 5th street) (3 comments)
• More open space, lighted well
• Direct bus route with College Hill and Mendenhall as only stops
• Brewster is complicated, overwhelming
• More purple and gold on campus
• Belk to Menges bus is not good.
• Unsafe 4th and 5th street, crime
• Building appearance, Brewster looks like a prison
• Dining hall hours should be later.

“Rants & Raves”

• Books are too expensive
• No busses during welcome week?!
• Fletcher Hall, Love it!
• Campus Towers, like being close to campus, but not ON campus. No RA’s
• Knock down abandoned houses in neighborhood for more parking!
• The Mall!!!!
• Love West End Dining
• Like Mendenhall
• A trolley around campus that never stops would be great
• No more pianos in common rooms!!
• Rivers Building smells funny.

NEXT STEPS

The SmithGroup/JJR team will review the issues identified and identify key concerns and reoccurring themes in the responses. These topics will be addressed as key stakeholder concerns in the Master Planning process. The team will also identify if there is greater research or interaction with interested stakeholders needed to more precisely identify key issues.

GRAPHICS

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If this report does not agree with your records or understanding of this meeting, or if there are any questions, please advise the writer immediately in writing; otherwise, we will assume the comments to be correct.