

North Bay Forward

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How do you define community? Where do you see the Sonoma State growing to be in the future?

Introduction

North Bay Forward is an initiative to bring the North Bay community together, to conceptualize community ideals and to capture ideas to create a better, more resilient future for the North Bay community. Many groups of people, from business personnel to nonprofits to discuss this growing question of what community is and what community can be. In this experiment a group of Sonoma state students were brought together to envision the future of Sonoma state and its ties/connections to Sonoma County.

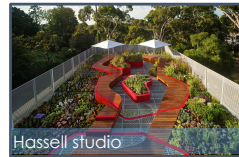
Method

As a part of GEP 206, a GE level course, the class of 100 students representing all schools and grade levels participated in the visioning charrette. In a classroom setting with big paper sheets and markers, students discussed and shared their ideas of what Sonoma State is as a community and what it can become. These perspectives as well as data collected from a post charrette survey were synthesized, summarizing the main areas of improvement

Results

Sustainable Infrastructure:

- Rentable transportation (bikes, scooters)
- More LEED standard buildings



Natural Systems:

- More native flora and fauna populations on campus
- Productive greenspace
 - Living Roofs

Community Engagement:

- Increased student participation in clubs and activities
- More student engagement in sports game
 - 6th man crew for basketball
 - Themed nights



Academic Experience:

- Adding Home Economics classes to the GE list
- Increase Student diversity by highlighting international programs

Future Directions

- Conducting a feasibility study, to see if these options are possible financially
- Combining all results from all sessions to see how they interact together
- Now that we know what we want to see, what changes do we make to get there?