Economic Vitality
Students Combined Raw Data from 2y2d Focus Groups in 2010-11

Starting in the summer of 2009, the Two Years to Two Decades (2y2d) Initiative asked nearly 1000 faculty, students, staff and community stakeholders for input on where they want the UW to be in 20 years and what matters most to them in light of current challenges.

Based on initial findings, 2010-11 focus groups identified six of society’s major issues they felt the UW should work to solve in the coming decades: Environmental Sustainability & Clean Energy, Education, Health, Social Justice & Inequality, Educated & Engaged Local/Global Citizens, and Economic Vitality.

Combined raw data of Economic Vitality-related comments from Student groups are listed below.

Participant responses fell under the following headings:

Encouraging community involvement
Safety-Related
Livable Communities
Competitiveness
Public Service
Beyond Campus
Technology
Leverage and Deploy Research
Economics and Finance
Fiscal Responsibilities

Individual responses, roughly grouped by topic, appear below:

- Global competitors for jobs & innovations
- Influx of non-US engineers
- Entrepreneurship/new companies
- The need for an educated, competitive, and employable workforce
- lack of jobs

- Integrated technologies
- Developing new technologies
- Increasing use of technology
- New technology
- Technology vs. Human interaction
- how the web changes society and the university
- safety in data storage (internet)
- technology and the new economy
- Individual information security
- Personalized aggregate search engines

- Global competitiveness
- The global economy
- Global crisis
- Global economic crisis
- Globalization
- global competition
- globalization
- Globalization
- Competitiveness
- global economic pattern (prevent crisis)
- global labor competition

- Financial opportunities
- U.S. economy
- budget deficit
- inflation
- budget/finance
- financial needs
- advise the state on a meaningful and balanced budget
- financial aid for the middle class
- income inequality
- rise of the shadow state in social-service provision
- debt (student loans)
- credit card debt
- construction of class identity
- changing nature of employment
- corps taking advantage to make profit (e.g. organic food more expensive)
- financial reform
- deficit
- Hold corporations responsible (P.S. They are not people)
- corruption in Wall Street

- Crime rate (decrease it)
- Safety (on campus)
- Better/safer streets
- rural development
- public transportation
- public transportation
- urbanization
- rethinking urban planning (transportation and public housing)
- reach out to the community to get them excited about UW

- biomedical research
- Eugenics research
- New research
- research excellence
- interdisciplinary research
- communicating research data (?)
- research connecting health in environment
- Help education & promote research on GMOs & their positive effects