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First Vision 20/20 Input Forums prompt lively, engaged conversations

Posted January 14, 2014 at 2:24 pm by [Tom Scherberger](#)



A conversation about how USFSP can help solve local problems drew a large crowd at the Community Input Forum.

The first round of student and community Input Forums for the Vision 20/20 strategic planning process took place Monday at the University Student Center ballroom. The forums — one for students in the morning and a second for community members in the evening — featured lively discussions of important issues for the future of USFSP. Some common themes of both forums included an interest in creating more internship opportunities to benefit students and local businesses and increasing community engagement to solve pressing local problems. Environmental Science Senior Lauren Reilly wrote in a [Vision 20/20 blog post](#) that the forum was inspiring. “Many different topics were discussed, such as undergraduate research support, paid internships and the commuter-student community,” she wrote. “After lunch, the second round of conversations began. I joined one that was full of laughter as we brainstormed about ways to improve our outdoor culture and bring the beach vibe to campus.” [Vision Team](#) member Goliath Davis said he was pleased with the results of the Community Input Forum. “I was impressed with the level of interest and engagement by everyone,” he said. “I was particularly

impressed that so many people took time out of their busy lives to show up on a Monday night. And I was extremely happy to see the interest and commitment from the community for USFSP.” Regional Chancellor Sophia Wisniewska welcomed participants at both forums, saying the forums are the “heart and soul” of the process and encouraging everyone to focus on the big picture. “This is a chance to pause, take a deep breath and think big: What are the big ideas shaping our future that we should address today?” she said. “As Carl Sandburg once said: ‘Nothing happens unless first a dream.’” The input forums continue today, with a faculty forum in the morning and the afternoon, and the second Student Input Forum at 4:30 p.m. The final input forum will be Wednesday at 9 a.m. for USFSP staff. Members of the Vision Team will participate in a series of Learning Journeys beginning next week. The next Vision Team meetings will be Feb. 28 and March 1. For updates on Twitter and Facebook, follow the hashtag #usfspvision2020. Go to the [Vision 20/20 website](#) for detailed information about the process.



STUDENTS DISCUSS THEIR VISIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF USF ST. PETERSBURG DURING MONDAY'S INPUT FORUM.

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