Non-Traditional Students
March 2, 2006, 5:00-6:30 p.m.
Facilitator: Sue Weitz (Beth Hellwig-Olson)

Strengths:

• Great PR connection with local media
• Reputation, regional, national, locally
• Large applicant pool for employers
• Core curriculum
• Strength of programs
• Non-traditional academic programs
• Basketball team strength thus attracting athletes for other athletic programs
• Social Justice, competitive, compassionate
• Mission
• New facilities
• Good and helpful faculty and staff
• Friendly people
• Name recognition of basketball program

Weaknesses:

• Need for more evening/on-line courses
• Low enrollment to key programs
• Space issue
• Need for non-traditional student orientation
• Faculty sensitivity to non-traditional
• Diversity of students, staff and faculty
• Disability services
• Career services for non-traditional students
• High tuition costs
• Bookstore availability bad, financial aid and student accounts
• Parking
• Low income treatment
• Transition/Advising
• Financial aid assistance
• Food services too expensive

Opportunities:

• Nursing shortage
• Spokane growth
• Alumni support
• Communication targeted at non-traditional students
• Aging population’s interest in returning to school
• Recognition of non-traditional students by Fr. Spitzer
• Growth of Spokane, U District, outdoor and wireless sector
• Locker space
• Utilizing facilities for conferences, retreats, street fairs
• Expand upon current programs, i.e., pre-med

**Threats:**

• Federal and state aid availability to students
• Availability of local jobs after graduation
• Family expectations
• Loss of programs/grant money
• Respect and encouragement to go into different programs
• Lack of housing
• Other local universities’ programs for example new engineering program offered by Eastern Washington University
• Utilities, costs, update equipment