

UND TEACHER EDUCATION FOCUS GROUP QUESTIONING ROUTE

Opening

Welcome and thank you for joining our discussion about UND Teacher Education. My name is Barbara Combs, and I will be moderating the discussion. The purpose of the focus group is to understand your experiences with and opinions about UND Teacher Education, so that we can improve our programs. There are no right or wrong answers to the questions I will ask you to address. I expect that there will be varied points of view, so please feel free to share your point of view even if it differs from what others have said.

My role is to ask questions and listen and make sure everyone has a chance to share. I will not be participating in the conversation, but I want you to feel free to talk with one another. I will be asking about 10 questions. To make our conversation most productive, only one person should talk at a time and please speak loudly enough, so that everyone can hear. In discussions like this one there may be a tendency for some people to talk more than others. Since our goal is to hear from everyone, if you are talking a lot, I may ask you to give others a chance, and if you aren't saying much I may invite you to comment.

We are tape recording the session, so that no comments are missed; however no names will be included in any of the reports. Your comments are confidential. To help ensure that confidentiality, I am asking that none of you share what anyone says in this focus group.

Feel free to move about and get more refreshments. Now, let's begin with the first question.

1. When you hear the words Teacher Education at UND what do you think of?
2. Think about your experiences with the TE program at UND. Write down three things that you think are positive about the program. (Share and moderator post on flip chart.)
3. Write down three things that disappoint you. (Share and moderator post on flip chart.)
4. On your list, rank the positives and negatives from least to most important WITH # 1 BEING THE MOST IMPORTANT AND # 3 BEING THE LEAST, then share your thinking about this with us(Share & moderator post rankings).
5. What things should be changed and how do you think they should be changed?
6. What things should remain the same?
7. Imagine for a moment, that five years have passed and you are talking with colleagues about the TE program at UND. You are delighted with the changes that have been made. Describe those changes to us.
8. Is there anything else we haven't talked about today that you think we should know so we can better understand and improve the TE program at UND?
9. Let me summarize the key points. Is this summary complete? Have we missed anything?