Listening Sessions: December 9, 2009 and February 10, 2010
Active Listener Impressions Highlights

The following themes emerged during the panel presentations on December 9 and February 10.

Expanding Student Access and Services

- More concurrent enrollment opportunities
- Multiple access points for high school students
- Open entry/exit classes
- More counseling and DSP&S support
- Access to childcare is essential for many new immigrants
- Pairing ESL and Basic Skills in vocational classes
- The proposed plan to cut summer school hurts programs/students
- Provide more Saturday programs and evening courses – at Ocean and throughout the city
- More student services need to be available at other sites beyond Ocean campus
- Provide more programs for life skills development and barrier removal
- Partner with parents
- For newcomers, more “survival English,” basic skills and occupational training
- Offer GED programs in Chinese (now offered in Spanish and English)
- For former foster students, housing issues are a major obstacle
- More support with financial aid application process for different populations, e.g. foster youth
- More support for LGBQ and transgender students who have encountered discrimination and prejudice
- Bridge programs for at risk youth support and stability
- Counselors need more familiarity with all programs available
- Need more access to programs on west side of SF
- Meet the challenge of getting youth engaged in education
- More Bilingual faculty
- Tailored outreach and support needed for particular student populations – Runaways, transgender adults, LGBT youth, new immigrants, emancipated youth (from foster care), formerly incarcerated, adults seeking job retraining, new high school graduates
- Social justice is the cornerstone for access to education

Building Greater Workforce Awareness and Meeting Needs

- More vocational/job training/career tech courses are essential
- More career tech information
- Viable sectors: health, hospitality, construction, IT, digital media, biotech, green/solar tech
- Stackable credentials that meet labor market needs
- Set up series of pathways for existing workers to retrain to new jobs
- Faster track from school to work, through short-term certificates or other programs
- Enable students to see big picture view of industries
- Be part of reinvention of new industries
- Be flexible and dynamic to meet needs of developing industries – react quickly
- Create new courses more quickly
- Focus programs on entrepreneurship and development of entrepreneurial skills
- Internships and preceptorships important
- Develop soft skills: customer service, team player, leadership, interview skills, critical thinking
- Balance vocational training with traditional academics – European model includes humanities and hands on learning
- For career development, more hands on and less lecture
- Build stronger ties with unions to place graduating students in jobs
- Teach interview and job application skills
Strengthening Partnerships with neighborhood and community based organizations

- Coordinated efforts and leveraging of dollars, grants in collaboration
- Seek partnership opportunities with social agencies
- Partner with Community Based Organizations (CBO) as they can provide wrap around support
- Collaborate with trainers to build capacity to train
- More GE courses at neighborhood campuses to minimize commuting
- Partner with other organizations to advocate for funding
- Engage with neighborhood organizations at planning of land use and new buildings at the front end
- Lack of access to vocational education and employment in Bayview/Hunters Point is a factor in African Americans leaving that community.
- Investigate joint commercial projects (such as Haight Ashbury Food Program)
- Emphasize collaboration between diverse community groups
- Investigate Obama initiatives for partnerships
- College needs to integrate internal services for more successful interaction with CBO’s
- More access to Hotel and Restaurant/Hospitality programs desired by neighborhoods such as Haight Ashbury and Bayview/Hunters Point.
- Richmond District would like more adult programs and more robust ESL
- More education for new immigrants needed in neighborhoods, e.g. Chinatown
- Share teaching facilities with CBO’s
- CCSF Ambassador program has been successful and should be expanded
- Expand opportunities for students from CBO take a class together as a cohort
- Restore holding CCSF classes at LGBT center, to help marginalized students transition

Strengthening Partnerships with Schools, Colleges and Universities

- Better outreach efforts and wrap around to transition from high school
- Coordinated efforts and leveraging of dollars, grants in collaboration
- Collaboration among the SFUSD institutions, four year institutions, and the community college
- SFSU would like to see and increase in transfer numbers from the College
- Collaborate more closely with SFSU
- SFSU graduate students may be available as a resource for CCSF
- Partner with private schools as well as public schools
- College needs better internal communication so collaborating with partners is consistent and not duplicated
- Partner with SFUSD in expanding college readiness programs
- In addition to collaboration, better articulation needed with SFUSD
- Strengthen the Pre-K - 16 path through teacher to teacher dialogue
- Professional development day for counselors across Pre-K – 16 grade levels
- High school counselors need to be better informed about CCSF
- Provide placement testing on site at high schools.
- High school students should get priority enrollment
- Offer CCSF tours to high school students
- Summer after high school graduation is critical window for reaching students with Ambassadors, tours, welcome centers, and other outreach

Educational focus

- Policies should be student centered
- ESL sequences too long
- Explore right and left brain learning skills
- Education should be a change agent -- more emphasis on social responsibility and social justice
- Maintain high academic achievement in liberal arts
- More emphasis on communication and creative thinking skills
- Develop reliable data systems to measure the success and advancements of students accurately.
- Use the power of reflection and inquiry during the Strategic planning process
Speakers: Rachel Antrobus, Transitional Aged Youth (TAY), Director; Rob Black, Workforce Investment Board of SF Chamber of Commerce, Chair; Cal Broomhead, SF Department of Environment Energy, Program Manager; Richard Carranza, SFUSD, Deputy Superintendent, Instruction, Innovation & Social Justice (IISJ); Jessica Cogan, Year Up San Francisco Bay Area, Director of Program Growth and Quality; Rita Evans, Sunnyside Neighborhood Association, Secretary; Brian Fox, San Francisco Education Fund, Strategic Partnerships Director; Kica Gazmuri, California Tomorrow, Senior Associate, Community College Access and Equity Initiative; Pete Gerharz, Larkin Street Youth Services, Director of Education and Employment; Diane Gray, SFUSD, Gear Up, District Coordinator; Eric Guthertz, Mission High School Principal; Patricia Kaussen, Richmond District Neighborhood Council, Executive Director; Michelle Butler Larkrith, UC Berkeley, Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Assistant Director, Marketing & Recruitment; Don Marcos, Mission Hiring Hall, Executive Director; Maria Martinez, Abraham Lincoln High School, College Counselor; Kyle Moneyenny, Glide YouthBuild, John Muir Charter School, Director of Education; Lorne Needle, United Way of the Bay Area, Vice President of Community Investments; Ed O'Neil, UC San Francisco Director, Center for the Health Professions; Tim Paulson, Labor Council, Executive Director; Mark Quinn, US Small Business Administration Bay Area District Director; Sara Razavi, Honoring Emancipated Youth (HEY), Executive Director; Trent Rhorer, San Francisco Department of Human Services, Executive Director; Enrique Riveros-Schafer, San Francisco State University, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs; Rebecca Rolfe, San Francisco LGBT Center, Executive Director; Rhonda Simmons, City of San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development Director Workforce of Development; Charles Skinner, University of San Francisco, University Evaluator; Abby Snay, Jewish Vocational Services, Executive Director; Egon Terplan, SPUR Regional Planning Director; Derek Toliver, Young Community Developers, Executive Director; Van Ton-Quinlivan, PGE Corporation, Director of Strategic Human Resources; Jo Volkert, San Francisco State University, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management; Maya Webb, SFUSD, Foster Youth Services Coordinator; Bruce Wolfe, Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council; Ling Chi Wang, Friends of Opportunities in Chinatown; Sarah Wan, Community Youth Center of San Francisco, Executive Director.

Active Listeners: Deanna Abma, Loren Bell, Timothy Berthold, Tom Boegel, Beth Cataldo, Kristin Charles, Robert Clark Carlota Del Portillo, Don Q. Griffin (Chancellor), Linda Grohe, Vivian Ikeda, Carl Jew, Carmen Lamha, Joanne Low, Phyllis McGuire (Facilitator), Roland Montemayor, Alice Murillo (Facilitator), Indiana Quadra, Rose Marie Roberson, Fabio Saniee, Gary Tom, Ryan Vanderpol, Kathleen White, Kim Wise.