



**All – OPAS Workshop
November 17, 2006
OMSI Auditorium**

**Framing our Process
for Prioritizing Action**

OPAS Goals for the Workshop

- Accelerate the pace of the OPAS Initiative;
- Prioritize existing OPAS strategies to identify the top three to six strategies on which to focus our time and energy for the coming year and guide resource allocation in the upcoming biennium.
- Identify strategies for increasing resources available to OPAS; and
- Update all members on OPAS activities, recommendations, data, and resources.

A Common Vocabulary for the Day:

- **Strategy:** Allocation of resources towards a particular goal at the possible expense of other goals.
- **Method:** General approach to implementing a strategy. Possible methods include:
 - **Policy:** Work with boards, councils, governmental staff and others to establish a common goal and allocate resources towards achieving that goal.
 - **Funding:** Obtain funding for a strategy, establish a process for distributing funds best suited to implement the strategy, implement this process, and monitor the result.
 - **Collaboration:** Identify organizations with common goals, develop joint plans, and implement these plans.
 - **Professional Development:** Offer workshops, courses, and support structures to those already working with students and educators to enhance their knowledge and effectiveness.
 - **Formal Education:** Enhance what is taught, and how it is taught, to students in the classroom and lab.
 - **Informal Education:** Augment what is available in formal classrooms with extracurricular programs and activities in a variety of settings.
 - **Grass roots:** Pull together small groups of people with the latitude and motivation to take independent action, develop and deploy prototype solutions, and grow the ones that work best.
- **Sub-strategies:** The choice of one or more methods for implementing a particular strategy together with interpretations of the chosen methods in the context of the strategy.
- **Tactic:** A specific action associated with a plan to implement a strategy or sub-strategy.

Rules of Engagement for the Morning:

- Your rotations amongst table groups from 9:30 – 11:15 are assigned. Please check the lavender sheet in your folder.
- Go with the flow of your moderator's style – they are all different, and this process is pretty free-form.
- Keep the goal in mind: enough information to make an informed vote
- Please encourage everyone to contribute:
 - If applicable, review the results from the last group
 - Keep your own comments succinct and to the point
 - Listen for insights
 - Look for ways to connect diverse perspectives
 - Gather and record collective knowledge
 - Help keep the discussion moving
 - Review the discussion record – anything missing?

Voting procedures:

- First round starts when lunch is served at 11:45.
 - Use your green dots to vote for three different strategies – which are the best strategies for OPAS to focus on in the next year, and lobby to fund for the next biennium? Wander amongst the tables to review comments from the table groups and place your green dots on the Master Tally Sheet for that Table. You are not constrained to vote for one strategy from each table. If all your favorites are M's, then place your dots there and ignore S and P.
- Await the results of the first tally – we're down to six
- Use the magenta stickers (check in back of your name tag) to vote for two strategies – which are you most passionate about and willing to invest time and energy in?

Rules of Engagement for the Afternoon:

- When the winning three are announced around 1:00, we'll divide into three groups based on preference. We may need to shuffle some in order to get even groups – please be flexible. Please be sure to sign in so Jo has a record! These groups have three exercises to work through – again:
 - Encourage everyone to participate
 - Listen for insights
 - Look for ways to connect diverse perspectives
 - Gather and record collective knowledge
 - Review the discussion record – anything missing?

Thanks for your time, energy, and commitment!