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The self-study process is both an assessment and planning process. It is a process that challenges the College community to ask itself 2 questions:

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To identify the “top 10” lists, the College first asked all full-time employees in groups of 15 or less to review the entire lists of strengths and opportunities identified in the Self Study. From this list each group identified its list of “top 10.” The results of this process were sent to each of the 3 deans’ councils, then the Self Study Steering Committee, and finally the Executive Council. The Board of Trustees worked independently to identify its lists. This process stimulated positive dialogues and priority setting in the College’s strengths and past accomplishments and excitement about the opportunities that Western chooses to address in the next 3 years.

The tables below list the strengths and opportunities that the Board of Trustees and the employees identified. The lists are distinct because the roles and perspectives of the Board and the employees are and should be different.

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In order to use this list of opportunities, the College’s next step will be to identify which 3-4 opportunities will be the “vital few” that it will target as planning priorities for the next 1 to 3 years. These opportunities will be incorporated into our next institutional planning cycle that starts in Fall 2004.

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Summary
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The self-study process is both an assessment and planning process. It is a process that challenges the College community to ask itself 2 questions:

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<td>11. Strong relationships with the community and responsive to its needs</td>
<td>12. Direct the administration to strengthen data collection and analysis to validate the assessment program, to inform College employees about assessment results, and use the results to improve teaching and learning</td>
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<td>1. Cooperate with the Foundation on the Major Gifts Campaign</td>
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<td>2. Investigate the appropriate role of the Board in determining tuition rates and other relevant financial issues</td>
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<td>3. Encourage the administration to examine new opportunities in marketing and recruitment</td>
<td>3. Improve the quality and availability of advising</td>
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<td>4. Encourage the administration to look for opportunities to improve academic advising</td>
<td>4. Improve the range of technical and support services for online students</td>
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<td>5. Encourage the administration to look for opportunities to improve support for Internet programs</td>
<td>5. Develop a facility renovation plan</td>
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<td>6. Encourage professional development and effective recruitment</td>
<td>6. Identify methods to recruit more Hispanic students</td>
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<td>7. Consider the need and feasibility of an additional residence hall and related facilities</td>
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<td>11. Adapt to meet the needs of new markets for online students, GED students, out-of-state students, and continuing students</td>
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