

## Interim President Lunches with – and Listens – to Students



*Interim President Chris Fiorentino and some of the students who attended the April 18 University Forum lunch.*

“I want to hear about the bad as well as the good here at WCU,” is how Interim President Chris Fiorentino began his remarks at a *University Forum* lunch with students on April 18. “What do we need to improve? What isn’t working?” he asked.

He told the students that when his daughter, Diana Marlin, ’14, was a WCU student, she was vocal with him when she saw a problem. “She brought to my attention that some areas of campus didn’t have sufficient lighting, and I worked to get this issue resolved,” says Fiorentino. “Now I want to hear what *your* concerns are.”

Campus safety, diversity training, the needs of transfer students, Research Day, dining hall food choices, recycling on campus, availability of on-campus housing, and hours of shuttle bus service were just some of the topics that the students and Fiorentino discussed during the lunch, which was open to all students on a pre-registration basis.

A *University Forum* lunch for faculty and staff will be held May 12. The event filled two hours after it was announced; a second session, for those on a waiting list, has been scheduled for May 16.

During the hour-and-a-half student lunch, there was one thing that Fiorentino didn’t get to do – eat lunch. He was too busy listening, and filling pages of a notebook with meeting notes. As the students filed out, he did manage to grab a sandwich to take back to his office.