

Joint IEC/ Accreditation Team meeting, May 19, 2015

## Minutes

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Members In Attendance: Dawn DeWolf, Kerry Levett, Christina Howard, Molloy Wilson, Matt Danskine, Rosa Lopez, Maurice Hamington, Ce Rosenow, Craig Taylor, Gary Mort, Jennifer Frei, MJ Kuhar, Kate Sullivan, Jennifer Steele, Phil Martinez.

1. IEC subcommittee shares results of recent feedback from campus community.

Molloy sent out document in email summarizing feedback, Dawn hoped to have final feedback by Thursday. Have 60 responses from students, another forum tomorrow, explaining core themes and gather feedback. Molloy: half of student comments show that they are unclear about what we are asking.

2. Accreditation Team discusses/ reviews the process of working with the core themes, objectives and indicators (e.g. looking at the data, meeting the threshold, analyzing the results, etc.)

Dawn: It's helpful to have accreditation team here to address process for the seven year review.

Craig: Back when Sonya was here and the Mission had four items listed, they became the core themes. Under each theme there are objectives that allow us to identify if we are meeting our themes.

Ce: (describing year seven document)- We are supposed to have a cycle of planning, assessment, and improvement around Core Themes. We didn't have that last time, and Maurice wrote a section in the report saying that Core Themes are new to us but we will do more with them from now on. In the strategic planning report we produce in the fall, we'll now have sections for each core theme with some strategic directions attached to each one. (See sample document.)

Dawn: We set the rationale. We need to simplify our analysis.

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Maurice: This document is an example of the structure that we need to develop.

Number of indicators. Ce, Craig and Dawn went to one day training in Seattle, Les Steele wants to see a core theme around student learning. He said NWCCU has been through a seven year cycle with new standards and everyone missed the mark. This was his direct statement to meet this standard.

Maurice: Core themes are new to NWCCU too; they should put it in their handbook.

Gary Mort: Things get so embedded that they are forgotten.

Christina Howard: With assessment we can provide specific feedback, we're aligned with national standards.

3. A.T. shares the recommendations by NWCCU to reduce the 6, to 4, and why

Dawn shared the revised list. Christina asks what the group used to reduce the list to four.

Removed: Integrated, Interdisciplinary Learning and Environmental Stewardship and Intergenerational Justice.

Maurice: Needs to be a grace, aesthetic, elegance, memorability in the institution if there are a reduced number.

Kerry: The process came about through discussion over a couple of weeks, align what was there without parsing the mission. The two that are gone, there are passions. In the feedback we got was that we need to explain our mission better through our core themes.

Rosa: Not meant to be eloquent at this point. What are those concepts and where did they go?

Kate: Five goes into some other concepts, six goes away.

Kerry: Previous Core Themes were siloed by type of students. New Core Themes are not siloed by student type.

Gary: A.T.: We need a result, The others: Need to be holistic, messy in the middle. One of the issues about assessment. As we move out of a silo into a holistic metric measurement will be messy.

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Molloy: Getting down to the indicator level we are too far into the weeds. Missing a mutual understanding, 80% agreement on the language.

Matt: We are trying to make global decisions with information from 150 people.

Dawn: Gives the AT the opportunity to write the report that goes to the board, the Accreditation staff.

Jen: This report isn't being done in isolation. I was involved in Community Conversations, and the Strategic Enrollment Management Plan. We are bringing our other experiences into this work.

Mapping: Defining words

Phil: I have three points. I don't think Sustainability fits there. I think there's a difference between two and five. Thinks that the phrase "comprehensive community college" needs to remain in the document.

Suggested: Change item five to comprehensive learning, one bullet point in a list.

Molloy: Are we looking at these six, and this process has taken a turn that has caused a lot of consternation. We should go back to the six essential elements of the Mission.

Process check in: (Dawn) Are you saying we should go back to the March 17 documents six elements?

Ce: I'm trying to remember what happened after we came out with that language.

Phil: Carol lumped that last four together, then they were split. Sometimes taking a step back can get up forward. "Comprehensive and Accessible, High Quality and Learning Centered."

For Thursday bring Carol's original six essential elements and the Mission. Thumbs up.

Using these six essential elements to define a shared understanding and hone it down to a few words.

For Thursday do need a process, treat that as a check-in proposal, each person take one word of a proposal, such as "accessibility."

Christina and Rosa proposed doing background work on the proposals.

Molloy will work on Community Engagement.

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Rosa will work on Accessibility.

Gary: If the group can accept on a certain amount of ruthlessness. If we are agreed on a certain amount of language, we can move forward.

Dawn: We will work through as much as we can, set some time limits. Need this completed by the end of the week.

4. A.T. shares insights from NWCCU training they attended

**Comment [CR1]:** This was done in the discussions summarized above. The main point was that student learning is central to what all institutions do and that our work at the college and our core themes need to connect to mission fulfillment which is ultimately about student learning.

5. General discussion

6. Planning for summer meeting times for IEC

Not addressed.