

Accreditation Update

Board of Director's Meeting – January 18, 2018

Why is Accreditation Important?

- Ensures that an institution's academic programs meet acceptable levels of quality.
- Validity and accountability.
- Title IV eligibility. (Financial Aid)
- Continuous improvement.

Northwest Commission on Colleges & Universities (NWCCU)

- 7 States: Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, and Utah.
- Leadership Changes
 - Retirement of Dr. Sandra Elman as of October 2017.
 - Interim President Dr. Marlene Moore until search concludes mid-year.
- Currently undergoing their own re-recognition process with the U.S. Department of Education.

NWCCU Standards

- 1 – Mission and Core Themes
- 2 – Resources and Capacity
- 3 – Planning and Implementation
- 4 – Effectiveness and Improvement
- 5 – Mission Fulfillment, Adaptation and Sustainability

Accreditation Cycle

- 7 Year Cycle - PCC's Cycle runs from 2016 – 2022
- Year One Evaluation Report
 - Submitted Spring 2016
 - Covered Mission, Core Themes and Expectations
- Mid-Cycle Evaluation Report & Visit
 - Report Due March 1, 2018
 - Covers readiness to provide evidence of mission fulfillment
 - Visit Scheduled for April 18th and 20th, 2018
 - 2 Evaluators
- Year Seven Comprehensive Self-Evaluation Report & Visit
 - Report Due Spring 2022
 - Visit late April/May 2022, 2 ½ days, 5 Evaluators
 - Process for self-evaluation begins 2021

Core Themes & Key Indicators of Achievement (KIAs)

- Core Themes taken directly from our mission:
 - Access and Student Success
 - Economic Development and Sustainability
 - Quality Education
 - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
- Key Indicators of Achievement (KIAs)
 - How we know if we're fulfilling our mission.
 - Must have targets and be measurable.

More on KIAs

- Elevating the of value and importance of KIAs through the intentional integration with strategic planning efforts, priorities, and work at the college.
- Mid-Cycle Visit allows for an opportunity to share KIAs and how they are incorporated into assessment and documentation of mission fulfillment.

Contracting College - Oregon Coast CC

- Comprehensive Self-Study Evaluation as a Candidate for Accreditation due late February 2018.
- Evaluation visit in April 2018.
- June 2018 – NWCCU will decide if OCCC can move to candidacy status (5 year process).