

# COLLEGE EFFECTIVENESS COUNCIL

## Council Charter Revised

WINTER NEWSLETTER  
2011

### CEC MEMBERSHIP 2011-12:

Peter Angstadt  
Kori Bieber  
Tracy Davenport  
Kirk Gibson, Chair  
Cheryl Markwell  
Marie Mueller  
Sarah Noffke  
Mary O’Kief  
Linda Renfro  
Curtis Sommerfeld  
Denise Swafford  
Lynda Warren  
DW Wood

### HIGHLIGHTS:

College Effectiveness  
College Self-Evaluation  
NWCCU Trains RCC  
Strategic Plan Update  
College Master Plan  
Budget Challenge  
Spring Inservice

### \*RCC CORE THEMES

Promote Student Access  
and Success  
Advance Student Learning  
Strengthen our Diverse  
Communities  
Model Stewardship

To clarify the Council’s scope of responsibility and provide Council members with a more meaningful role in guiding institutional planning, the Institutional Planning and Effectiveness Council (IPEC) agreed to change its name to College Effectiveness Council (CEC) and subsequently revised its charter. The new CEC mission is: *To provide the College with necessary guidance and relevant data to engage in ongoing, purposeful, systematic, and comprehensive planning, assessment and continuous improvement processes that lead to mission fulfillment.*

The Council determined it is not their role to BE the institutional planners but to GUIDE the institutional

planning that includes, but is not limited to Budget, Strategic Plan, Facilities, Core Themes, Academics, Distance Learning, Emergency Preparedness and the myriad of other institutional planning that occurs at the College. Toward that end, if you would like some guidance from CEC on assessment and improvement of your planning activities, please contact the Council Chair, Kirk Gibson, Dean of Instruction and Transfer Education at Ext. 7117 or [kgibson@roguecc.edu](mailto:kgibson@roguecc.edu). In addition, if you would like to receive some information about the Excellence in Higher Education (EHE) assessment model – an evaluation and continuous improvement process tool

introduced to RCC by way of a grant from the Lumina Foundation in 2010, please contact Denise Swafford, Accreditation Liaison/ Administrative Coordinator, Ext. 7087; [dswafford@roguecc.edu](mailto:dswafford@roguecc.edu). The EHE may be a useful way for you to improve your own planning activities. There are a few additional FREE guide-books available for anyone interested. On the other hand, if you have the guidebooks and you would like some help applying the process to an assessment of your department or program, contact Swafford. To review the CEC meeting minutes or Charter go to the College’s intranet; find “Councils/ Committees” and go to “College Effectiveness Council.”

## Comprehensive 10-Yr Accreditation Self-Evaluation in Full Swing

A ten-year comprehensive self-evaluation is presently in progress based on revised standards that include: (1) Mission, Core Themes\* and Expectations; (2) Resources and Capacity; (3) Institutional Planning, (4) Core Theme Fulfillment, Adaptation and Sustainability. The completed report is due to the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) -- the region’s accreditation authority -- by September 1, 2011. NWCCU site evaluators will be on campus **October 26-28,**

**2011.** If you are working on a response to one of the issues in Standard 2 those *draft* responses are due by **March 10, 2011.** Please contact Denise Swafford, Ext. 7087 to discuss additional time needed. And, if you are feeling “out of the loop,” fear not, you will likely be asked to participate in a meeting or survey (or two) associated with core themes – an addition to accreditation standards in 2010 -- and other inquiries from your colleagues regarding topics they are assigned to evaluate and report on. First draft responses to Standards 3

and 4 will be due between **April 29 and mid-May.** After that the ALO will be lining up responses and doing some follow-up work with all of you for more information and evidence to support the report. In addition to the comprehensive, the Commission has recently directed RCC to provide an addendum report on the following past recommendations: strategic plan and part-time faculty evaluations. Everything you want to know about accreditation and RCC may be found at [www.roguecc.edu/Accreditation](http://www.roguecc.edu/Accreditation) or by contacting Denise.

## NWCCU TRAINS THREE RCC ADMINISTRATORS

Kirk Gibson, Dean of Instruction and Transfer Education, Lynda Warren, Vice President of College Services/Chief Financial Officer and Denise Swafford, Accreditation Liaison/Administrative Coordinator were nominated to serve as evaluators for the accreditation commission (NWCCU). In December, all three participated in a full-day of training that included an overview of the new standards, structures, process and evaluator expectations followed by plenary sessions on each of the five standards. Speaking in terms of the college's upcoming evaluation and site visit, Kirk Gibson said, "This is a great way for us to get the answers to the test." However, what the evaluators learned is that there are no simple answers or formulas to follow. The new standards are designed to articulate the quality and effectiveness of each college and university under NWCCU's purview in a way that meets eligibility requirements but also addresses each institution's unique mission/purpose in a process that is self-reflective and blends analysis of various College functions and synthesis of the entire College in a holistic fashion based on assessment and continuous improvement processes. This is one of the reasons the College Effectiveness Council has reorganized (see Council Charter Revised, page 1) and also a reason RCC was awarded the Excellence in Higher Education (EHE) grant. EHE is a Malcolm Baldrige assessment model specifically created to apply to colleges and universities. Within the process, a scorecard and action plans are developed based on areas of strength and improvement.

## STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

A subcommittee of CEC, including Mary O'Kief, Grants and Planning Coordinator; Curtis Sommerfeld, Chief Information Officer; Kirk Gibson, Dean of Instruction and Transfer Education; Lori Sours, Department Chair and Full-Time Faculty (Academic Skills); and Paul Fisher, Full-Time Faculty (Business Technology) has been meeting to plan for updating the planning model to prepare the *2012-2016 Strategic Plan* (SP). So far, their proposal includes a melding of core theme planning and strategic planning, and sets the college on an assessment and improvement path that aligns with accreditation reporting requirements. For more information, contact one of the subcommittee members. *2011-12 Action Plans* for the *2008-12 Strategic Plan* have been completed and are available at [www.roguecc.edu/StrategicPlan](http://www.roguecc.edu/StrategicPlan). Questions or comments may be directed to Mary O'Kief, Grants and Planning Coordinator, Ext. 7915.

## COLLEGE MASTER PLAN

A comprehensive facilities-driven *College Master Plan* (earlier referenced as the Institutional Master Plan) is near completion. The goal for the plan was to create a flexible framework to serve as a guide for RCC in decision-making and overall responsiveness to changing programs and services, decreasing state funding, increasing of other revenue sources and managing a growing population of students with a variety of training and learning needs and goals. Institutional planning is a key element of revised accreditation standards. A final draft will be presented to the RCC Board of Education for review (first reading) on March 15, 2011. Opsis Architects and Abell Architectural Group began working with RCC on the Plan in November 2009. For more information on the process go to [www.roguecc.edu/Masterplan](http://www.roguecc.edu/Masterplan).

## Budget Challenge 2011-12

Lynda Warren, Vice President of College Services/Chief Financial Officer, has been hosting a budget presentation for various college councils and other employee groups regarding RCC's *2011-12 Budget*. The presentation provides an overview of state budget laws and processes as well as a RCC's future budget planning and parameters. In 2000-01, state funding for RCC amounted to 40% of the College's revenue; in 2011-12 that support is projected to diminish to 15%. The legislature is not likely to act until after its May forecast. According to state law, RCC must provide a balanced budget by **June 30**. If you are interested in reviewing this narrated PowerPoint presentation from your desk go to [www.roguecc.edu/budget](http://www.roguecc.edu/budget). Budget questions, comments and suggestions may be directed to Lynda Warren, Ext. 7016, or [lwarren@roguecc.edu](mailto:lwarren@roguecc.edu) or Lisa Stanton, Director of Budget and Financial Services, Ext. 7024, or [lstanton@roguecc.edu](mailto:lstanton@roguecc.edu).

## SPRING INSERVICE

Spring Inservice may be officially cancelled this year because of budget cuts. It is presently being discussed with the associations as a possible unpaid furlough/cut day. Nonetheless, other professional growth opportunities/brown bag workshops are being hosted by Instructional Services, College Services and Student Services. For a schedule of training opportunities, contact the vice presidents' assistants Diana Moynahan (Instruction) Ext. 7142, or [dmoynahan@roguecc.edu](mailto:dmoynahan@roguecc.edu); Sharon Smith (Student Services), Ext. 7187; [ssmith@roguecc.edu](mailto:ssmith@roguecc.edu) or Jeanie Wood, Ext. 7002; [jwood@roguecc.edu](mailto:jwood@roguecc.edu).

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*You never know a line is crooked  
unless you have a straight one to  
put next to it.*

-- Socrates --

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