

INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING AND EFFECTIVENESS COUNCIL (IPEC)

Winter 2010
Newsletter

IPEC Membership 2010-11:

Kori Bieber
Chelsea Kelsey
Tracy Lingo
Cheryl Markwell
Marie Mueller
Sarah Noffke
Mary O'Kief, Co-Chair
Tracey Olsen-Oliver
Linda Renfro
Curtis Sommerfeld
Denise Swafford,
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Lynda Warren
DW Wood

Highlights:

Core Themes
Fall 2009 Site Visit
Student Survey
NACUBO Challenge
Strategic Plan
Institutional Master Plan
Save the Date

RCC ESTABLISHES CORE THEMES FOR 2011 SELF-STUDY

RCC is scheduled to complete a comprehensive self-study followed by peer evaluation in Fall 2011. This review will be based on *new* accreditation standards and reporting methods adopted by the Board of Directors for the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) on January 11.

The new standards are:

1. Mission, Manifestation and Expectations;
2. Resources and Capacity;
3. Planning and Implementation;
4. Effectiveness and Improvement; and
5. Mission Fulfillment, Sustainability, Adaptation.

The standards are designed to address function and interest.

Core themes are "communities of interest, which will be threaded into *all* of the work RCC does.

According to NWCCU, a core theme is "a manifestation of a

fundamental aspect of institutional mission with overarching objectives that guide planning for contributing programs and services, development of capacity, application of resources to accomplish those objectives and assessment of achievements of those objectives. Collectively, the core themes represent the institution's interpretation of its mission and translation of that interpretation into practice." A group of faculty, staff, administrators, and student representatives kicked off theme development work with an August 17, 2009, workshop, facilitated by Rene McKenzie and Sharon Smith. A subcommittee of IPEC used that list to reduce possible topics to a *Top 20*, which were further reduced to a *Top 4*. Those *Top 4* were further discussed, edited and ultimately approved by IPEC on January 26 and by Executive

Team on February 1, 2010. The themes, in no particular order are:

Advance Student Learning

Strengthen our Diverse Communities

Promote Student Access and Success

Model Stewardship

Each core theme will require associated goal(s), intended outcome(s), measurement indicators and rationale for choice of indicators. An RCC team is heading to NWCCU in Seattle for training on the new standards and reporting process next week. To review or discuss the standards, contact Denise Swafford, Ext. 7087 or go to [www.roguecc.edu/accreditation/core themes](http://www.roguecc.edu/accreditation/core%20themes) or visit NWCCU's website at www.nwccu.org.

Results of Fall 2009 Interim Visit

Dr. Beth Pitonzo, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Central New Mexico Community College, completed a site visit at RCC on October 23, in response to a *Focused Interim Report* RCC filed on September 1 as directed by NWCCU. Dr. Pitonzo focused on the college's progress with its strategic plan.

Her report commended the College for efforts to approve and implement the 2008-2012 Strategic Plan in spite of challenging state budgetary conditions. She stated, "While variable progress has been made on established goals and objectives, it is clear that data is informing decisions

and significant budgetary allocations have been made to support critical elements of the strategic plan." In her recommendations Dr. Pitonzo suggested continued efforts in creating a "planning culture" at RCC. A letter from NWCCU with its official position on RCC's progress in this area is anticipated by early March.

SENSE – STUDENT SURVEY

New to RCC this year is the Survey of Entering Student Engagement (SENSE), which examines institutional practices and student behaviors in the fourth and fifth weeks of the fall academic term. This survey is a vital tool for accurately planning ways to meet the needs of our students. By surveying their reactions to the services and programs at the College, the institution can find areas of strength or weakness. Only when the College knows there is a problem can that problem be resolved. It is important to note that survey results will be aggregated and analyzed for institution-wide purposes. Cost for this mandatory survey is being covered by the state for all community colleges. NWCCU and other regional agencies have provided coordination between SENSE results and the new accreditation standards, so RCC will use those results in its 2011 report.

NACUBO CHALLENGE 2010

RCC was one of six institutions (the only community college) selected by the National Association of Colleges and University Business Officers (NACUBO) to develop a project designed to improve assessment processes under a Lumina Foundation grant. Denise Swafford, Cheryl Markwell, and Lynda Warren participated in training under the grant to learn principles modeled after the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award Program and adapted for higher education by Dr. Brent Ruben of Rutgers University. Dr. Ruben was a trainer consultant at the 4-day event. RCC will apply the principles learned to NWCCU's new accreditation standards and reporting methods.

IPEC WELCOMES NEW REPRESENTATIVES

IPEC is pleased to welcome new faculty representation on the Council for 2010-11. **Doreen (DW) Wood** (Business Technology) will assist with training and editing on the comprehensive study along with Faculty Emeritus Marie Mueller (Business Technology), who has been a special consultant and editor on accreditation for RCC for over 30 years. **Tracy Lingo** (Mathematics) has also agreed to serve as a faculty representative on the Council. Another new addition to IPEC, representing classified is **Sarah Noffke** (Instructional Services), and **Lynda Warren** (College Services) also joined the team along with the other two college deans. All of these new representatives will add a valuable perspective to IPEC's important work.

2008-12 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

2009-10 revisions to RCC's Strategic Plan and 2010-2011 Strategic Plan Budget Requests are now posted for review and use on the Strategic Planning Website on RCC's Intranet at www.roguecc.edu/IPEC. Two goal champions are reporting on February 23 via IP Video from all three campuses (RWC-CH9B, RVC-G15 and TRC 123C). If you would like to attend or have any questions regarding the *2008-12 Strategic Plan*, contact Grants and Planning Coordinator, Mary O'Kief, Ext. 7283 or Ext. 7596.

Institutional Master Plan Update

In Fall 2010, representatives from Opsis Architecture and the Abell Architectural Group visited all three campuses to design a first draft for an institutional master plan. Draft plans were discussed with selected representatives on January 20, and next steps include meetings with Executive Team and Facilities Directors, the RCC Board, and three open house sessions:

Monday, March 15, 3-5 p.m.
TRC (East Entrance)

Tuesday, March 16, 10-Noon,
RWC (Student Lounge)

Tuesday, March 16, 2-4 p.m.
RVC, HEC (First Floor Lobby Area)

All faculty, staff, administrators and students are welcome to stop by to review the plans, ask questions and make suggestions for Phase 2 of the planning. The IMP will incorporate academic, financial, and facility planning needs college-wide. The result will be one overarching plan intended to serve the College as both a tool and guide. Solid institutional planning and assessment practices are a major expectation for accreditation as directed by NWCCU. The master schedule, meeting notes and information about the architects are posted on the RCC Intranet at www.roguecc.edu/imp. If you are unable to attend one of the above-referenced sessions, you can contribute your thoughts via a *Master Plan Survey* on the referenced website or by contacting the project liaison Denise Swafford at Ext. 7087.

SAVE THE DATE

Plans for spring inservice are underway. Please save the date: **Friday, May 14.**

*Most people are in favor of progress; it's
the changes they don't like.*

From Dr. Ronald Baker, NWCCU
February 2, 2009 Presentation
