



**Northwest Commission on College and University (NWCCU)**  
**Annual Update for WSQA**  
**Academic Year 2015-2016**  
**Due November 15, 2016**

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Accreditation recommendations to the College and year of recommendation	Actions taken by the college to address recommendations	Improvement results
<p>The College submitted its Comprehensive Year Seven Report in March of 2013 and received five recommendations.</p> <p>1. <i>The College ensure the alignment between the mission statement and the core themes – that the core themes “individually manifest” and “collectively encompass” the College mission statement (Standard 1.B.1), that the core theme objectives and verifiable indicators be sufficient to evaluate the accomplishment of core themes (Standard 1.B.2), and that the evaluation of programs and services be holistically informed by indicator data for each core theme objective (Standards 3.B.3 and 4.A.4).</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Mission Statement was updated (September 2013) by specifically identifying the educational program areas that are referenced the body of the mission statement.</li> <li>• Green River aligned its 7 year strategic plan with the Core Themes, objectives and indicators, as well as with the 7 year accreditation cycle.</li> <li>• The core theme councils have identified initial and existing strategies and initiatives that are tied to core theme objectives, such that the measurement of the related indicators can be used to inform where strategic attention can “move the needle.”</li> </ul>	<p><i>Per NWCCU, the College has made significant progress to address this recommendation.</i></p>

<p>2. <i>The College clarify and operationalize its system of governance with particular attention to communication regarding process and decision-making with all college constituencies (Standard 2.A.1).</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The GRC Board of Trustees adopted a Participatory Governance Policy in November, 2013.</li> <li>• The College implemented a participatory governance model in 2014-2015 consisting of constituent councils (i.e., Administrative, Classified, Exempt, &amp; Faculty).</li> <li>• The College Council, consisting of representatives from each of the constituent councils, serves as a college-wide recommendation body to the Executive Team.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Per NWCCU, the College has fully addressed this recommendation.</i></p>
<p>3. <i>The Board review regularly, revise as necessary, and exercise broad oversight of institutional policies (Standard 2.A.7).</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All College policies were reviewed, revised and/or updated in 2013-14.</li> <li>• The GRC Board of Trustees has implemented <i>Policy Review and Revision</i> as a standing agenda item to the monthly meetings.</li> </ul>	<p>College policies are reviewed regularly and revised as necessary on continuous basis.</p> <p><i>Per NWCCU, the College has fully addressed this recommendation.</i></p>
<p>4. <i>For each year of operation, the College undergo an external financial audit and that the results from such audits, including findings and management letter recommendations, be considered in a timely, appropriate and comprehensive manner by the Board of Trustees (Eligibility Requirement 19 and Standard 2.F.7).</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The College has contracted with the State Auditor’s Office (SAO) to conduct independent financial audits each year of operation.</li> <li>• The financial audit for 2012-2013 was completed in June 2015.</li> <li>• The financial audit for 2013-2014 was completed in June 2016.</li> </ul>	<p>The College receives yearly financial audits by the Washington State Auditor’s Office (SAO).</p> <p><i>Per NWCCU, the College has fully addressed this recommendation.</i></p>

<p>5. <i>The College move aggressively to implement an effective and comprehensive system of direct and authentic assessment that appraises student accomplishment of existing course, program, and college-wide learning outcomes from which are derived meaningful results that provide clear direction for curricular and instructional improvement (Standard 4.A.3, 4.A.6, 4.B.1, and 4.B.2)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Learning Outcomes Committee, with support from the Director of Institutional Assessment, Evaluation, &amp; Analysis, revised the college wide learning outcomes assessment process via pilot assessments of direct student work with the intent of moving towards consistent assessment methods.</li> <li>• The Learning Outcomes Committee is now moving towards program level assessment, in which assessment plan templates, technology, and documentation methods will be explored.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Per NWCCU, elements of assessment are in place, but more work is needed to meet the expectations of the recommendation.</i></p>
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