



Northwest Commission on College and University (NWCCU)
Annual Update for WSQA
Academic Year 2016-2017
Due October 30, 2017

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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"> • The College has revised the objectives and indicators of achievements for its four core themes to ensure alignment with mission fulfillment. The revised indicators are meaningful, assessable, verifiable, and sufficient to evaluate the accomplishment of core themes. • The College has revised its process for evaluating mission fulfillment to ensure the core themes collectively evaluate mission fulfillment. The College is also in the process of creating an annual mission fulfillment report and dashboard. 	<p><i>Per NWCCU, the College has made significant progress to address this recommendation.</i></p> <p>Based on the results from the 2016-17 year, the College has adopted three goals: (1) enrollment, (2) retention and completion; and (3) diversity to focus the College’s efforts and resources.</p>

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<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"> • The GRC Board of Trustees adopted a Participatory Governance Policy in November, 2013. • The College implemented a participatory governance model in 2014-2015 consisting of constituent councils (i.e., Administrative, Classified, Exempt, & Faculty). • The College Council, consisting of representatives from each of the constituent councils, serves as a college-wide recommendation body to the Executive Team. 	<p><i>Per NWCCU, the College has fully addressed this recommendation.</i></p> <p>College has a participatory governance model in place that allows for input from faculty, staff, administrators, and students on matters in which they have a direct and reasonable interest.</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"> • All College policies were reviewed, revised and/or updated in 2013-14. • The GRC Board of Trustees has implemented <i>Policy Review and Revision</i> as a standing agenda item to the monthly meetings. 	<p><i>Per NWCCU, the College has fully addressed this recommendation.</i></p> <p>College policies are reviewed regularly and revised as necessary on continuous basis.</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"> • The College has contracted with the State Auditor’s Office (SAO) to conduct independent financial audits each year of operation. • The financial audit for 2012-2013 was completed in June 2015. • The financial audit for 2013-2014 was completed in June 2016. 	<p><i>Per NWCCU, the College has fully addressed this recommendation.</i></p> <p>The College receives yearly financial audits by the Washington State Auditor’s Office (SAO).</p>

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<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"> • In 2013-14, Learning Outcomes Committee, with support from the Director of Institutional Assessment, Evaluation, & 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. • In 2014-15, Learning Outcomes Committee developed a process to assess program level learning outcomes. • In 2017-18, the Learning Outcomes Committee will develop a systematic process for documenting and reporting assessment of course, program, and college-level learning outcomes. 	<p>In 2015-16, all programs reviewed, revised and developed program level learning outcomes.</p> <p>In 2016-17, all programs completed one cycle of assessment of program level learning outcomes.</p>
<p>In October 2016, the NWCCU requested the College submit a Special Report to address steps the College has taken to restore trust, stability and sustainability at all levels of the College. The College also hosted a visit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The College hired an interim president, vice president of instruction, and director of planning and research. • A permanent president and director of institutional effectiveness were hired in July 2017. The appointment of the interim vice president was extended until July 2018. • The College has established regular meetings with faculty, staff, administrators, and students to share information and to ensure college-wide input on matters in which they have a direct and reasonable interest. • The president and the executive staff have been working and are continuing to work on re-establish trust and open communication. 	<p><i>Per NWCCU evaluator, the College has a solid leadership foundation, an administration that has engaged the college community and continues to reestablish trust, and confirmed there is currently budget sufficiency and resident expertise to plan for financial sustainability.</i></p>