

# STRATEGIC PLANNING YEAR-END REPORT

July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012  
Updated as of 5/04/2012

Office of  
Finance and Administrative Services



# Yavapai College

## Strategic Planning Year-End Report

### July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012

#### **Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) Activities Conducted in 2011-2012**

In fall 2011, the District Governing Board addressed and reaffirmed its Ends statements for the academic year 2011-2012.

The Strategic Plan was updated two times in 2011-2012. The Strategic Plan was reviewed and updated at the 9-21-11 District Managers' Meeting and Strategic Plan Status was reviewed at the January, 2012 PLT meeting. The notes from both meetings are posted on the Strategic Planning website: [www.yc.edu/strategicplanning](http://www.yc.edu/strategicplanning)

#### **Strategic Initiatives**

The 2010/2011 – 2013/2014 Strategic Initiatives were reviewed and updated. The College is at the halfway mark of the current strategic plan. Following is a status update and list of accomplishments for each initiative achieved during the past two years.

#### **Initiative 1: Student Success and Satisfaction**

Sponsor: Dr. Greg Gillespie

##### **A. Develop process to capture/update student intent and contact information each semester.**

Leader(s): Patrick Burns, Barbara Wing

Status: **Completed**

Supports Board Ends: 1.1.1, 1.1.2 & 1.1.3

Supports HLC Core Components: 5.D

Accomplishments:

- Information Technology Services with input from Student Services and Institutional Research developed a web-based Student Intent Module. Intent module went live with fall 2011 registration. During registration process, the student is asked to verify or update student intent, and plans to return or transfer.
- Institutional Research will analyze student intent data to improve measurement of student success and completion.

##### **B. Develop institutional measures for student success.**

Leader(s): Barbara Wing

Status: **In-Progress**

Supports Board Ends: 1.1.2

Supports HLC Core Components: 4.C

Accomplishments:

- Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction survey was completed in spring 2011. Information on the importance and satisfaction of instruction and student services will be used to maintain and improve a culture of student success.
- Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) is being conducted in spring 2012. Student engagement is one of the highest predictors of retention and completion. Findings from the survey will be available fall 2012.
- Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) committee was formed and began work in academic year 2011-12. Accomplishments include identifying top 50 courses with the highest withdrawal rates, reviewing appropriateness of course sequencing in all degree and certificate programs, and establish enrollment forecasts and targets by subject area and semester for academic year 2012-13.

### **C. Improve online support services.**

Leader(s): Barbara Wing

Status: **In-Progress**

Supports Board Ends: 1.1.2

Supports HLC Core Components: 3.D., 5.C., 5.D

Accomplishments:

- Working on orientation programs accessible on-line. Financial aid application has been stream-lined and is on line. Some areas are experimenting with advising using different technology systems, i.e. skype. Looking at this from multiple dimensions.
- Help Desk - There was a huge rewrite of the registration system. Introduced a Student Satisfaction survey regarding registration concerns. As student feedback is received, it is analyzed and changes are being made. Also, developing analytics as to how students are searching for classes and what they are searching for, taking that data to make the application process better.
- Online Support – As part of the quality initiative comparison of face-to-face and on-line courses, the students are also surveyed as to how they access student services. This feedback will identify how and which students are accessing online support and those who are having difficulty e.g., freshman/sophomores. When students interacted with staff for registration the survey results were excellent.

### **Initiative 2: Quality and Effectiveness of Instruction**

Sponsor: Dr. Greg Gillespie

#### **A. Measure/affirm student learning and engagement.**

Leader(s): Tom Hughes, Jill Fitzgerald

Status: **In-Progress**

Supports Board Ends: 1.1.1 & 1.1.2

Supports HLC Core Components: 4.A., 4.B., 4.C

Accomplishments:

- A Yavapai College team attended a three-day workshop on Outcomes Assessment that was sponsored by the Higher Learning Commission.
- Student Learning Outcomes Assessment (SLOA) committee has begun to develop template curriculum maps and assessment strategies that address course, program, general education, co-curricular and institutional assessment.

Consider revision of Strategic Initiatives – 2A is an overlap of 1B

## B. Support college accreditation.

Leader(s): Tom Hughes, Amy Stein

Status: **In-Progress**

Supports Board Ends: 1.1

Supports HLC Core Components: All

Accomplishments:

In 2011-12, the College had a successful distance delivery change request visit and is now approved to offer online degree and certificate programs.

Yavapai College is one of 14 institutions in cohort one selected by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) to assist in developing and pioneering a new model of accreditation called the Open Pathway. The Open Pathway separates the process into two components: the Improvement Process and the Assurance Review.

**(1)The Improvement Process**, which consists of a major Quality Initiative that the institution undertakes. This process is required for continued accreditation in conjunction with the Assurance Process. The Improvement Process allows the institution to take risks, aim high, and if need be, learn from only partial success or even failure. At the end, YC prepares and submits a Quality Initiative Report.

The Improvement Process, overseen by the Quality Initiative Steering Committee, is chaired by Dr. Amy Stein, Art History professor, Visual & Performing Arts. [Amy.Stein@yc.edu](mailto:Amy.Stein@yc.edu)

Quality Initiative Project: A Comparative Analysis of Online and Face-to-Face Learning. Project is on-time, with the final report due to the Higher Learning Commission by June 30, 2012.

**(2) The Assurance Process**, which is based upon evidence that is stored electronically in a system maintained by the HLC. The evidence is evaluated by a team of peer reviewers who produce a report with recommendations. YC will prepare a report (Assurance Argument) that presents the case that it meets the HLC's new Criteria for Accreditation and complies with all federal compliance requirements. The Assurance Review visit results in a recommendation that will be joined with the recommendation from the Quality Initiative to determine continued accreditation.

The Assurance Process is overseen by Tom Hughes, Director of Institutional Research and committees exist for each criterion area. [Tom.Hughes@yc.edu](mailto:Tom.Hughes@yc.edu)

Dr. Greg Gillespie, VP for Instruction/Student Services and the Accreditation Liaison Officer for Yavapai College, is overseeing the entire reaccreditation efforts for YC. (928) 717-7778;  
[Greg.Gillespie@yc.edu](mailto:Greg.Gillespie@yc.edu)

Assurance Argument report is due in January 2013 with an onsite reaccreditation visit set for March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

### **C. Explore entrance/exit tests to measure “value-added learning”.**

Leaders(s): Tom Hughes, Scott Farnsworth, John Morgan  
Status: **Not Started** – scheduled to begin in FY2013  
Supports Board Ends: 1.1.1 & 1.1.2  
Supports HLC Core Components: 4.A., 4.B., 4.C  
Accomplishments:

### **D. Pilot student interest assessment for degree seeking (strong, work keys, other).**

Leader(s): Sandy Garber  
Status: **Not Started** – scheduled to begin in FY2013  
Supports Board Ends: 1.1.1 & 1.1.2  
Supports HLC Core Components: 4.A., 4.B., 4.C  
Accomplishments:

### **E. Enhance service excellence with internal customers and students.**

Leader(s): Rose Hurley, Barbara Wing  
Status: **In-Progress**  
Supports Board Ends: 1.1  
Supports HLC Core Components: 3.D., 3.E., 5.D  
Accomplishments:

- Student Services and Business office received Noel-Levitz training and the College has instituted the First Friday trainings. The College is putting together some strategies or expectations in regard to service.
- Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction survey measure importance and satisfaction of instruction and services was conducted in spring 2011. Noel-Levitz findings were presented at the spring 2012 Open Forums.
- Noel-Levitz Employee Satisfaction survey was conducted in fall 2012. Findings were presented at the spring 2012 Open Forums.

Effectiveness measures are further down the line vs. behavior modification. Noel Levitz measures service outside the classroom in various areas. Noel Levitz and CCSSE surveys are given alternating years. Need to determine if the College wants quantitative or qualitative data. Everything the College does should have a desired outcome. This initiative relates to all areas of the College – students and internal customers.

## **F. Incorporate program review with strategic plan.**

Leader(s): Tom Hughes, Chris Heyer, Scott Farnsworth

Status: **In-Progress**

Supports Board Ends: 1.1.1 & 1.1.2

Supports HLC Core Components: 4.A

Accomplishments:

## **G. Identification of program prioritization.**

Leader(s): Scott Farnsworth, Deans, Strategic Enrollment Mgt. Committee

Status: **Not Started** – scheduled to begin in FY2013

Supports Board Ends: 1.1.1 & 1.1.2

Supports HLC Core Components: 4.A., 5.A., 5.C

Accomplishments:

## **H. Improvement of gateway course success rate.**

Leader(s): Tom Hughes, Dean Holbrook

Status: **In-Progress**

Supports Board Ends: 1.1.1 & 1.1.2

Supports HLC Core Components: 3.D., 3.E., 4.B, 4.C

Accomplishments:

- IR has collected baseline data from the National Community College Benchmark Project study focusing on college transfers, gateway courses, and developmental courses.
- **Action - Consider combining Initiatives 2H and 2I with one title.**

## **I. Improve student preparedness.**

Leader(s): Dean Holbrook

Status: **In-Progress**

Supports Board Ends: 1.1.1 & 1.1.2

Supports HLC Core Components: 3.D., 3.E., 4.B, 4.C

Accomplishments:

- Research on student placement testing and cut scores is being reviewed.
- IR has collected baseline data from the National Community College Benchmark Project study focusing on college transfers, gateway courses, and developmental courses.
- **Action - Consider combining Initiatives 2H and 2I with one title.**

## **J. Update campus Master Plan.**

Leader(s): David Laurence

Status: **Not Started** – scheduled to begin in FY2013

Supports Board Ends: 1.1 & 1.3

Supports HLC Core Components: 5.A., 5.C

Accomplishments:

### **Initiative 3: Fiscal Stewardship and Efficiency**

Sponsor: Clint Ewell

#### **A. Reduce/reallocate overall costs by 3% per year for five years without reducing quality.**

Leader(s): Clint Ewell

Status: **In-Progress**

Supports Board Ends: 1

Supports HLC Core Components: 1.A., 5.C

Accomplishments:

- FY11: Cut Current (operational and auxiliary) budget by 7.5% - 2.5% saved, 5% reallocated from Current to Capital; reallocated 4% within Current = almost 12%. **Ahead of schedule.**

#### **B. Increase college resources.**

Leader(s): Clint Ewell

Status: **In-Progress**

Supports Board Ends: 1.1

Supports HLC Core Components: 5.A., 5.C

Accomplishments:

- The College is moving to a differentiated tuition model that charges a higher tuition for more expensive courses and programs. Average tuition increase for 2012-13 is \$3.00 per credit hour.
- Performing Arts Center has undergone extensive renovations. Programming has been expanded to include films and live streaming performances. Policy change now allows for the sale of food and beverages for events held in the Performing Arts Center.
- Architecture firm GLHN has inspected and assessed the condition of the existing student housing on the Prescott campus. The consulting firm Brailsford and Dunlavey has been retained to examine the viability and sustainability of building new residence halls.
- Since the hiring of a new bookstore company, revenues have increased. Follett has proven to be a good service partner and financial relationships have improved.

### **Initiative 4: Employee Development**

Sponsor: Clint Ewell

#### **A. Maintain market-competitive compensation.**

Leader(s): Rose Hurley

Status: **Completed**

Supports Board Ends: 1.1

Supports HLC Core Components: 2.A., 5.A., 5.C

Accomplishments:

- All employment grades are reviewed on a three-year cycle. In 2011-12, grades 9-13 are being reviewed. This initiative has become institutionalized and is an ongoing, cyclical process.

### **B. Refine comprehensive performance evaluation process.**

Leader(s): Rose Hurley

Status: **Completed**

Supports Board Ends: 1.1

Supports HLC Core Components: 5.A, 5.D

Accomplishments:

- A new comprehensive performance evaluation process was implemented in July 2011.

### **C. Review and develop comprehensive professional growth program.**

Leader(s): Rose Hurley

Status: **In-Progress**

Supports Board Ends: 1.1

Supports HLC Core Components: 5.A., 5.D

Accomplishments:

- A workgroup has been meeting to address this initiative. They are following the same template as the performance review process. This workgroup-based team has received a great deal of college input. Starting to see the results of that committee, but it will be a 2-3 year track.
- First Friday training sessions were implemented in spring 2012. Training sessions are peer-based trainings that cover a wide range of topics from software training to management skills.

### **D. Evaluate compensation for part-time employees.**

Leader(s): Rose Hurley

Status: **In-Progress**

Supports Board Ends: 1.1

Supports HLC Core Components: 5.A., 5.C

Accomplishments:

- Work has been done on this initiative, but is dependent on budget and the part-time positions within the different divisions.

## **Initiative 5: Community Development and Partnerships**

Sponsor(s): Dr. Penny Wills, Steve Walker

### **A. Grow enrollment by 3 to 8% per year.**

Leader(s): Dr. Greg Gillespie, Strategic Enrollment Management Committee

Status: **In-Progress**

Supports Board Ends: 1

Supports HLC Core Components: 5.C

Accomplishments:

Steve recommended that initiatives 5A, 5E and 5G should fall under Initiative 2 – Quality and Effectiveness of Instruction.

Action - Recommendation - Initiative 5A should fall under No. 2-Quality and Effectiveness of Instruction. Consider re-titling this initiative to "Enrollments will Meet or Exceed Targets Set by the College" or Develop and Implement Strategic Enrollment Management Plan". By moving this initiative under No. 2, it is important not to miss the recruitment marketing piece of this enrollment concept.



Usually under the SEM plan, there is a recruitment, marketing, and retention piece. It is important that Marketing work side-by-side with the College to advertise those course as directed.

- Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) committee was formed and began work in academic year 2011-12. Accomplishments include identifying top 50 courses with the highest withdrawal rates, reviewing appropriateness of course sequencing in all degree and certificate programs, and establish enrollment forecasts and targets by subject area and semester for academic year 2012-13.

#### **B. Measure community perception and need fulfillment.**

Leader(s): Interact

Status: **In-Progress**

Supports Board Ends: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3

Supports HLC Core Components: 1.A., 1.B., 1.C., 1.D., 2.B., 5.C

Accomplishments:

- There have been 21 different types of surveys and focus groups for the branding process last year. There will be follow-up sessions, Yavapai College Today, Tomorrow and Beyond, scheduled with local business leaders where Dr. Wills and Steve will share the College's fiscal stewardship, program offerings, and ask questions if the College is meeting their workforce training needs now and in the future and talk about value-added community goals.

#### **C. Transparent, online common metrics of success – District Governing Board/community.**

Leader(s): Tom Hughes

Status: **Not Started** – scheduled to begin in FY2013

Supports Board Ends:

Supports HLC Core Components:

Accomplishments:

#### **D. Support county economic development.**

Leader(s):

Status: **Voided**

Supports Board Ends:

Supports HLC Core Components:

Accomplishments:

**Recommendation to eliminate as initiative is redundant of 5F. 1/17/2012**

#### **E. NAU-Yavapai (regional university)/YCNAU (2+2).**

Leader(s): Dr. Penny Wills, Dr. Greg Gillespie

Status: **In-Progress**

Supports Board Ends: 1.1.2

Supports HLC Core Components: 1.C., 5.C

Accomplishments:

Need updates here

## **F. Support Economic Development in Yavapai County.**

Leader(s): Dr. Penny Wills, Steve Walker

Status: **In-Progress**

Supports Board Ends: 1.2

Supports HLC Core Components: 1.D

Accomplishments:

- There is a great deal of effort being put into economic development through the Central Area Partnership. Prescott, Prescott Valley, Dewey/Humboldt, Chino, Tribes are working together to contribute financially to bring jobs to Yavapai County. Tom Schumacher is involved with Verde Valley Regional Economic Organization, Linda Buchanan is serving on the Vision Economic Development committee for the Town of Clarkdale; and Dr. Wills is working with the local college Presidents on a common agenda.

## **G. Enhance partnerships with Yavapai County high schools.**

Leader(s): Dr. Penny Wills, Dr. Greg Gillespie

Status: **Not Started** – scheduled to begin in FY2013

Supports Board Ends: 1.1 & 1.3

Supports HLC Core Components: 5.C

Accomplishments: