

Minutes of September 14, 2011

The committee members began the work of examining the NEASC Standard I: Mission and Purpose as outlined in the latest NEASC document: *Standards for Accreditation Revised* ed. July 1, 2011.

Agenda:

Introductions

Welcome, thanks, and responsibilities

Review of Standard changes

Timeline for accomplishments

Meeting dates

Questions

Summary of Minutes:

Discussion of the Standard and CCRI's mission

Standard # 1: Mission and Purpose as defined by NEASC:

The institution's mission and purposes are appropriate to higher education, consistent with its charter or other operating authority, and implemented in a manner that complies with the Standards of the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education. The institution's mission gives direction to its activities and provides a basis for the assessment and enhancement of the institution's effectiveness.

1.1 The mission of the institution defines its distinctive character, addresses the needs of society and identifies the students the institution seeks to serve, and reflects both the institution's traditions and its vision for the future. The institution's mission provides the basis upon which the institution identifies its priorities, plans its future and evaluates its endeavors; it provides a basis for the evaluation of the institution against the Commission's Standards.

1.2 The institution's mission is set forth in a concise statement that is formally adopted by the governing board and appears in appropriate institutional publications.

1.3 The institution's purposes are concrete and realistic and further define its educational and other dimensions, including scholarship, research, and public service. Consistent with its mission, the institution endeavors to enhance the communities it serves.

1.4 The mission and purposes of the institution are accepted and widely understood by its governing board, administration, faculty, staff, and students. They provide direction to the curricula and other activities and form the basis on which expectations for student learning are developed. Specific objectives, reflective of the institution's overall mission and purposes, are developed by the institution's individual units.

Institutional Effectiveness

1.5 The institution periodically re-evaluates the content and pertinence of its mission and purposes, assessing their usefulness in providing overall direction in planning and resource allocation. The results of this evaluation are used to enhance institutional effectiveness.

Background

Excerpt from the 2009 Fifth-Year Interim Report CCRI submitted to NEASC:

“The 2004 visiting team listed a series of recommendations for creating and for utilizing the newly created mission statement. The following two points are prominent in the list of recommendations: ... **A new mission statement for CCRI should be crisp, clear and definitive, brief enough to be memorable, yet pointed enough to encompass the expanded mission of the contemporary community college.**

With respect to the new mission statement's being crisp, clear and definitive, the committee offered the following rationale for selecting the proposed version. While the current statement is lengthy, each sentence is important in identifying the scope of who CCRI serves and what programming and

services it offers. Defining who CCRI serves was a key element in crafting the new mission statement. The student body is so diverse, and the college felt it important to add the phrase ‘ability and motivation to succeed’ to clarify what it views as possible given limited resources.”

Committee members were referred to the entire report found on http://www.ccri.edu/president/pdfs/2009_report.pdf.

The online history of CCRI’s Mission was also discussed.