President’s Update  
College Council  
February 14, 2020

We Did It!

Thank you to each and every one of the employees of Oregon Coast who have accomplished all of these great things in five years. Your commitments to students and student success shone through.

Our official letter from NWCCU granting initial accreditation can be found on the College’s accreditation page. It brings excellent news. Here are the highlights that reflect the wonderful work you have done over the past 5.5 years, with my paraphrasing of the “accreditese.”

Accreditation: Granted

Status of Previous Recommendations (those we were given in 2018): Each of the five is deemed “fulfilled.” This is really incredible. It is rare (actually I’ve not heard of it) to have all of the prior recommendations fulfilled in a short 15 months. Your work in addressing the rec’s has been phenomenal, and that is recognized by this status.

Commendations: Five: 1) community & high school partnerships, 2) everyone’s fostering of a student-centered culture (my favorite commendation), 3) emergency preparedness for the College and the community, 4) Student Services/Navigate, and 5) maintaining an budget reserve of 12.5%.

New Recommendations: Five. The visiting team left us with six rec’s, and this final decision by NWCCU removed #6 (Clery compliance). That’s a big deal, it is rare that recs from peer evaluators don’t carry through. The five remaining recs are: 1) fully implement program review, 2) fully implement assessment of learning outcomes, 3) enhance planning for resource allocation, 4) get in compliance with performance evaluations and enhance professional development, and 5) develop a comprehensive technology infrastructure plan.

Future evaluations:
- Spring 2021: Report on rec 5, technology plan (no visit)
- Fall 2022: Report on recs 1-4 (not clear if visit or report only, we will get guidance on that)
- Fall 2025: Report/review on policies, regulations, and finances (most of old standard 2)
- Fall 2026: Report (and guidelines say a visit) on institutional effectiveness (what was Ch 5: Mission fulfillment) in the old standards.
Survey results coming your way

Next week an email will go out to all employees with a link to two different surveys. The March CoCo meeting will have time to discuss the results of the surveys, and process initial reactions and thoughts about implications for OCCC.

2019 Campus Climate Survey (of employees). There were 10 basic questions about employee experiences of OCCC’s climate (welcoming, safe, supportive, friendly, diverse, inclusive, tolerant, respectful, collaborative and “sense of community). The survey instrument was borrowed (with permission) from Tillamook Bay Community College.

#RealCollege Survey is the nation’s largest annual assessment of basic needs insecurity among college students. The survey evaluates access to affordable food and housing for students. This year, nearly 167,000 students at 227 colleges participated.

Completed by 14 of 17 Oregon Community Colleges, results are available for all, and for OCCC individually. The news is sobering for us all. Here is an overview for OCCC

Invitations to complete the questionnaire were sent by email to approximately 400 students from Oregon Coast Community College and 123 students participated. Thus, the estimated response rate is 31.9%.

- Overall Basic Needs Insecurity Rates:
  - 44% of respondents experienced food insecurity in the prior 30 days
  - 61% of respondents experienced housing insecurity in the previous year
  - 28% of respondents experienced homelessness in the previous year
- 69% of students at Oregon Coast Community College experienced at least one of these forms of basic needs insecurity in the past year.
- There is substantial variation in basic needs insecurity across subgroups.
- 37% of food insecure students utilize SNAP benefits and 3% of homeless students utilize housing benefits.