



**Northwest Commission on College and University (NWCCU)
Annual Update for WSQA
Academic Year 2010-2011**

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Accreditation recommendations to the College and year of recommendation	Actions taken by the college to address recommendations	Improvement results
<p>Recommendation 1 (2008): The College has been very transparent in dealing with and communicating its current budget deficit concerns. However the College has not prepared a minimum three-year projection of operating income and expenditures as required. It is recommended that the College’s planning process include a three-year projection of major categories of income and specific plans for major categories of expenditures, in order to comply with Standard 7.A.</p>	<p>The fiscal 2012 college operating budget has been approved and a projection for fiscal 2013 and 2014 has also been completed. From here forward it will be maintained on an ongoing basis and adjusted as we obtain additional pertinent information.</p> <p>The college had a focused interim visit for the NWCCU in October 2010, to review the Annual Report on Finance and Enrollment submitted in June 2010. The college received no further recommendations, and has submitted a 2011 Financial Resources Review to the NWCCU as an addendum to its Year One Report, submitted in September 2011.</p>	<p>The three year income and expenditure forecast proved to be a useful tool to help the college manage the budget restriction for the 09-11 biennial budget, and the additional restrictions applied to and anticipated for the 11-13 biennial budget. It allowed the College to work with reasonable projections of income, to identify the most cost-effective solutions, and limit the impact of the budget cuts on teaching and learning as far as possible by facilitating forward planning. Maintaining the three-year forecast is now part of the Finance Office’s routine annual tasks.</p> <p>An outcome of the 2010 Focused Interim Visit was the following commendation:</p> <p><i>Bates is to be commended for the comprehensiveness of the Focused Interim Report. The Report provided clear, objective, and transparent assessment of the institution’s progress towards addressing the prior recommendations. Fall 2010</i></p>

<p>Recommendation 2 (2008): The College has made great strides in establishing planning and effectiveness processes since the 2003 visit. This work includes refining its mission statement, creating a vision statement and values statements and creating goals with measurable objectives. The College has started to collect data to be used to influence planning. The next step is to work on closing the loop with the assessment and planning process. It is recommended that the institution integrate its evaluation and planning processes to identify institutional priorities for improvement. Further, it is recommended that the institution use the results of systematic evaluation activities and ongoing planning processes to influence resource allocation and to improve its instructional programs, institutional services, and activities.</p> <p>(Fall 2010) Bates Technical College continues to make enhancements and improvements on its planning and newly enhanced effectiveness processes. The College has started to implement an assessment program and needs to continue these efforts. It is recommended that the institution use systematic assessment and planning processes to influence resource allocation and improve instructional programs, institutional services and activities for improvements.</p>	<p>The College has developed a comprehensive program and departmental assessment process. This new process is based on a three-year cycle of collecting and evaluating data, identifying issues or priorities for improvement, designing interventions, and evaluating results. All programs, and all College services and departments will undertake this process, beginning with an initial comprehensive review and followed by two annual updates until the cycle begins again after three years. Programs and departments are being cycled into the new process over a three year period. In addition, the College has redefined the role of its Assessment Committee. The committee evaluates the assessment plans to identify synergies and potential partnerships or opportunities to consolidate comparable activities. The committee monitors outcomes and presents key findings to the College Strategic Planning Council and other groups to ensure that Assessment outcomes are recognized by the Council and inform the College's Strategic Plan.</p>	<p>In 2009/10, programs and departments completed a pilot of the new process, although this was limited by the college's conversion from clock hour to credit operation. Improvements were made to the assessment plan process, building on feedback for the pilots. More programs began the new cycle in 2010/11, and a further group is scheduled to begin new plans in fall quarter for the 2011/12 year. Outcomes for existing plans were used to inform the strategic objectives of the college's Core Themes, and are an integral part of college planning and goal setting for the next three years.</p> <p>Significant areas identified through assessment planning and other data, and reflected in College planning by strategic objectives or focused task groups include non-traditional student success and ABE and developmental education student to college level student transition. The College is also implementing a new program evaluation process, and has developed a strategy to apply the outcomes of the Governance Institute for Student Success to College planning.</p>
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