



Northwest Commission on College and University (NWCCU)
Annual Update for WSQA
Academic Year 2010-2011
Due October 15, 2011

College Name: Highline Community College

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Accreditation recommendations to the College and year of recommendation	Actions taken by the college to address recommendations	Improvement results
<p>All current recommendations are from Highline's <i>Year One Peer Evaluation Report</i>, received May 2011.</p> <p>1. The Evaluation Team could not find evidence that Highline has articulated a threshold of accomplishments or outcomes that represent the extent to which it is fulfilling its mission. The evaluators recommend the College establish a mechanism for identifying and communicating an acceptable threshold in which the campus believes it has fulfilled its mission</p>	<p>The three recommendations from May 2011's <i>Year One Peer Evaluation Report</i> stem from the conversion to the new NWCCU accreditation standards, adopted 2010. Highline's March 2011 submission of its <i>Year One Self-Evaluation Report</i> was the first step in that conversion.</p> <p>Since then, Highline has proceeded to move forward with full implementation of the new standards. The college's Accreditation Steering Committee (ASC) has guided a campus-wide planning and assessment process specifically designed to address the recommendations of the peer evaluators.</p>	<p>Highline Community College's Accreditation Steering Committee, executive staff, and various cabinets have contributed to a thorough revision of the original <i>Year One Self-Evaluation Report</i> for re-submission in March 2012. As part of that effort, the college has finalized a new institutional assessment framework that reflects Highline's Core Themes.</p> <p>These revised institutional effectiveness measures are now collected as the college's <i>Mission Fulfillment Report</i>. That report:</p> <p>1. Articulates a threshold of accomplishments or outcomes that represent satisfactory</p>

<p>(Standard 1.A.2)</p> <p>2. The Evaluation Team recognizes the work the College underwent to establish a framework for institutional effectiveness aligning its mission to its strategic plan. However, the evaluators are concerned that the College’s Core Themes, objectives, and indicators of achievement are not the primary drivers in defining mission fulfillment. The Evaluation Team recommends the College complete its work of transitioning from the use of strategic plan initiatives, and their indicators, in defining mission fulfillment, to using the institution’s Core Themes, objectives and indicators (Standard 1.A.2).</p> <p>3. While the Core Themes and accompanying objectives provide a sound over-arching construct for a continuous improvement model tied to mission attainment, the evaluators are concerned that the College has only conceptually established indicators of achievement for the Core Theme objectives. The Evaluation Team recommends the College establishes specific indicators of achievement that are clearly defined, meaningful, assessable, and verifiable measures of accomplishment of the objectives of its Core Themes (Standard 1.B.2)</p>	<p>The results of that work appear in the “Improvement Results” column, right.</p>	<p>achievement of Highline’s mission, typically expressed in terms of meeting or exceeding national norms and/or three-year baselines.</p> <p>2. Represents a full transition from the college’s earlier Strategic Initiatives to the new Core Themes, objectives, and indicators of achievement as the primary drivers in defining mission fulfillment.</p> <p>3. Establishes specific indicators of achievement that are clearly defined, meaningful, assessable, and verifiable measures of accomplishment of each objective within the college’s Core Themes.</p>
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