



**Year One Report Update
June 15, 2009**

Wenatchee Valley College would like to provide an update to the Commission on progress made in addressing the revised requirements for Year One reports.

WVC has engaged in multiple activities over the last several months to develop a definition of mission fulfillment that meets the expectations of Standard One and the revised Year One report guidelines. This process directed attention to identifying what it really means to WVC to be meeting its mission and how the college can best communicate and demonstrate mission success to the students and communities it serves.

The process by which WVC arrived at a definition of mission fulfillment has most directly involved the college Planning Committee, which is comprised of four faculty members, two classified staff, and two administrative staff; and the President's Cabinet, the administrative leadership team. Each group had separate discussions of what mission fulfillment might look like at WVC, culminating in a joint planning session that yielded a proposal for a definition and assessable indicators. This proposal was shared with the Instruction Council (deans, vice presidents, faculty division chairs, student representative) and posted on the college Intranet site for staff and faculty review.

The Planning Committee and Cabinet examined several possible models for defining mission fulfillment and establishing a threshold of acceptable performance. Two options were considered but not adopted. One was a "scorecard" approach: the college could demonstrate mission fulfillment through attaining an acceptable level of performance across all seven of its core themes. Another method reviewed was selecting key indicators from within the core themes and elevating them as the best exemplars of mission fulfillment. Though these methods were deemed viable, participants in the discussions felt they did not fully address the intent of a definition of mission fulfillment that promoted synthesis across themes. The definition selected articulates two broad goals that represent a holistic view of the entire institution.

WVC defines mission fulfillment as demonstrating an acceptable level of performance on indicators of (1) student progress and success, and (2) community engagement and enrichment.

Proposed indicators for these outcomes are:

Student Progress and Success

- Retention for students with transfer, workforce preparation, and basic skills intent
- Completion: degrees earned for transfer and workforce intent students; competency gains within one year and GEDs earned for basic skills students
- Transition: transfer to four-year institution (transfer intent), employment (workforce intent), enrollment in college-level courses (basic skills)

Community Engagement and Enrichment

- Enrollment: student demographics relative to diversity of service district
- Community response to events sponsored by the college and its foundations (performances, workshops, conferences, fundraisers)
- Satisfaction of current students and employees with college environment
- Alumni satisfaction (graduate survey, foundation giving)

The college is currently benchmarking these indicators in order to articulate a threshold of acceptable performance. To create an overall assessment of performance for each outcome, indicators will be weighted according to importance and converted to a common metric to construct a summative measure. This process will be collaborative, with input from key constituents, and will result in a clear description of what acceptable performance looks like at WVC. These criteria will be specified in the revised Year One Report that WVC will submit by September 1, 2009.

WVC intends to work with this model throughout the pilot accreditation process and solicit feedback not only from the Commission and evaluators but also from its constituents over the course of the next seventeen months. This work will enable the college to revisit its definition of mission fulfillment and evaluate for possible revision in the development of its second Year One report to be submitted in 2011.

To address the recommendations included in the Commission's response to the WVC Year One Report, the college is reviewing the intended outcomes and indicators of achievement for its core themes to ensure that they are clearly defined and measurable. As a first step in the process, the Board of Trustees reviewed and revised the college's Ends Policy statements and associated indicators. Benchmarking of the indicators for the core themes is underway. WVC will measure past and current levels of performance and define goals for future performance in each of the core themes using the same approach as described for assessment of mission fulfillment.

WVC appreciates the opportunity to share its progress with the Commission and engage in constructive dialog on the development and implementation of the revised accreditation standards and process.