



October 24, 2011

As promised, each week this newsletter will highlight two of the NEASC Standards and the work being done by that committee. We hope you'll see this as an opportunity to provide input into that work. If you have additional information you think would be useful to the work, or questions about it, contact the chair of that standard directly.

Standard One: Mission and Purposes (Patti Pallis, Chair)

The committee has nearly completed its work on the Description phase, but would still appreciate any feedback from faculty and staff at the college. We appreciate that many of you took time to answer our survey questions last semester, in our attempt to determine how knowledgeable you are all feeling about the college's mission and vision statements. We will be highlighting, in our portion of the NEASC report, the fact that the college has recently completed a process of revising its mission and re-evaluating its vision, while also designing a new Strategic Plan.

As we worked toward appraising the college's mission and purpose, one element we focused on was the wide dissemination of the college's mission and vision. These statements are available on most publications, and are posted in high traffic areas throughout the college. More importantly, though, we are also working toward appraising in what ways the college works toward fulfilling our mission. To do this, we will highlight how the mission drives activity at the college—including, for example, the newly designed Academic Center for Excellence.

Standard Two: Planning and Evaluation (Kathy Taylor, Chair)

The college's strategic plan for academic years 2010-2013, "Toward a Splendid College: Naugatuck Valley Community College," is the vehicle that drives our planning. The process is informed by NVCC's mission, vision, and the Connecticut Community College System Strategic Priority as well as internal and external stakeholders who convene to make "sure that we are organized to maximize student success.

At NVCC, we are committed to effective and comprehensive planning and it is strength. We have many successful planning outcomes i.e. Evening Transportation, Library Renovation and the Academic Center for Excellence, however, the planning process must be more transparent and information disseminated so clear documentation exists from the conceptual to the implementation resulting in tracing our successes. In recent years, the budget process has connected each divisional budget to the Wildly Important Goals (WIGS), Presidential Goals, and Strategic Initiative; however, planning appears disconnected from resource allocation.

The current program and discipline review process has undergone changes resulting in increased accountability and the use of external perspectives. The Accreditation process in place for both Allied Health and Early Childhood Education continue to strengthen our standing and ability to serve students.

Most important, we are committed to the creation and implementation of an Academic Master Plan, Enrollment Management Plan, Financial Plan, Development Plan, and Technology Plan all culminating in the development of a Master Plan. Work on these various plans have began and each implementation leader has a completion due date.

A special thank you to the small yet mighty Standard Two team consisting of Robyn J. Bage, Bonnie Goulet, Lori Gregory, Steve Parlato and Kathy Taylor.

Sincerely,

Dean Sandra Palmer & Kim O'Donnell
Your NEASC Co-chairs