



Open Dialogue Notes
May 26, 2021/2:00-3:00pm

The Annual Open Dialogue Session serves as a venue to assess our strategic planning strategies as well as our strategic goals and objectives. No agenda was presented for this meeting, and all were invited to attend.

- Monica Green acknowledged that this is the last open dialogue session.
- Greg Aycock shared the purpose of open dialogue as stated in the College's 2013-2018 Strategic Plan and Process:
 - Annual Open Dialogue Session – This session, to be conducted toward the end of each academic year in late May or early June, will provide all Norco College stakeholders an opportunity for open dialogue concerning the extent to which college planning, program review, resource allocation and decision-making processes contribute to the achievement of course-, program- and institutional-level student learning outcomes. Content of the open dialogue session are to be captured through minutes and a summary report will be written. Under normal circumstances, the open dialogue summary report would be presented in a Committee of the Whole meeting the following fall term.
- This meeting has no agenda, the ISPC Co-chairs are there to listen.
- Monica Green shared how deeply proud she is of our college community for the discussion and collaboration everyone had that resulted in a new comprehensive Strategic Planning and Governance Manual. We have evolved as an institutional and organized ourselves well to achieve many of the goals set forth in the prior Strategic Plan and Process. She thanked everyone for their contributions.
- What is the future of the Supplemental Instruction (SI) program at Norco College?
 - Sam Lee shared that there is imbedded tutoring occurring through the Library right now. The SI program requires a fulltime coordinator, and there is currently a request for funding for this position in program review.
 - Gustavo Ocegüera shared that the SI program needs to be faculty driven and thoughtfully planned to maximize effectiveness and use of the funding.
- Rex Beck suggested that there are some areas where we can better market our CTE programs. For example, CTE programs of NC Schools could be more prominently located on the School's website.
 - Ashley Etchison shared that CTE is in the process of a re-design of the certificate fliers and webpages to include more information and student testimonials. Feedback on the website is welcome. Kevin Fleming thanked Lenny Riley and Charise Allingham for their work on these efforts.
- Greg Aycock arrived in 2004 as an institutional researcher under a grant. Seventeen years later, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness is still partially grant funded. What are the lessons we have learned about prioritizing the institutionalization of vital services like institutional effectiveness?

- Monica Green shared that this is done through the program review process. Our strategic goals along with available base budget drives decisions around the institutionalization of positions. There is still work to be done on the budget allocation model. In our general fund, 90% of the budget is attached to staff and benefits. There is a constant challenge to move the college forward with our current budget.
- Administration looks at all available funding to determine how to fund and support the strategic objectives of the college. Institutional effectiveness is important, and we use categorical and grant funds to support these efforts when possible. The college is transparent about these decisions.
- We have not seen a substantial increase in base apportionment, which would allow the college to add additional positions without taking from other areas of the college.
- Ruth Leal asked about positions that have been filled within this year.
- Michael Collins pointed out that a lot of the positions that were hired were vacancies that were filled and not due to an increase in base funding.
- The Office of Institutional Effectiveness will have greater demands placed on it with the Guided Pathways. Institutional Effectiveness will need more support with the emphasis on data driven decisions from Guided Pathways.
- Under the new governance structure, we will start the process for organizing around Schools. Is there is a concrete way to change the mindset from Departments to Schools? An example is that faculty do not meet in Schools, but they do meet in Departments.
 - In Arts and Humanities, there were two Schools-based meetings. The School meeting was in lieu of one of the Department meetings. If this could be implemented in the fall, it could be a good solution.
 - Quinton Bemiller suggested the use of an online meeting format to streamline department business.
 - A question was raised about an increase in the number of Schools. More discussion on the adoption of more Schools will come through the Academic Senate and Academic Planning Council.
- Is the district planning to address the space needs at the colleges given the failure of the bond and need to match funds?
 - The district is undergoing research for a future bond. The outreach to the community and the support needed to fund the bond are a great lift.
 - Kevin Fleming mentioned that off-campus facilities support our services in explicitly in our EMP. It is prudent to talk about off-campus facilities and leveraging university, community, city-owned, and unified school district sites to find a way to expand our footprint.
- Daren Koch shared an example of how the different perspectives of the college constituency groups can be considered.
- Charise Allingham congratulated everyone who worked on program review this year. She shared that she was impressed with how much time and effort were put into researching and writing program reviews. Charise thanked Dr. Alexis Gray and the Assessment Committee for their work and encouraged everyone to read the program reviews once they are posted.
- Mitzi Sloniger shared that she has learned a lot through conversations with staff in the LRC this year and encouraged continued conversations with colleagues to learn about one another.
- Notes from this final Open Dialogue meeting will be sent to the ISPC members and posted on the ISPC website.