

A photograph of the Mesa Community College clock tower, a tall brick structure with two clock faces on the upper section and the word 'MESA' written vertically on two of the lower sections. The tower is set against a clear blue sky.

HLC Accreditation

March 2015

Contents

The HLC at MCC

Accreditation Overview

Assurance Process Timeline

Quality Initiative Timeline

The Criteria

The Evidence & Arguments

The MCC Team

The Visiting Team

Credits

HLC Web Application

HLC at MCC

MCC's HLC Open Pathway Project

Mesa Community College, a Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Pathways Pioneer Institution, is engaging in an Open Pathway Project in order to fulfill its requirements for reaffirmation of accreditation by HLC. Every aspect of the college contributes to student learning and success as it aligns with our vision, mission, and values.

Vision

MCC – Leading the way to success in our local and global community.

Mission

MCC excels in teaching, learning, and empowering individuals to succeed in our local and global community. We serve as a resource for college and career readiness, transfer education, workforce development, and lifelong learning.

HLC at MCC

Our Values



Learning:

MCC champions individual student success that reflects the highest academic standards.



Innovation:

MCC delivers cutting-edge instruction and service.



Service Excellence:

MCC makes a positive difference in the lives of our students, community members, and each other through meaningful relationships.



Integrity:

MCC upholds the highest standards of ethics and public stewardship.



Individuals & Community:

MCC encourages active citizenship and embraces the diversity of people and ideas.

Alignment

HLC Accreditation

Accreditation is a voluntary peer review process that helps colleges and universities to critically evaluate their purposes and how effectively those purposes are being accomplished. Accreditation:

- Certifies the quality and integrity of Mesa Community College's (MCC) programs and services.
- Allows students to transfer credits to other accredited colleges and universities.
- Enables students to obtain financial aid and veteran's services.
- Empowers the college to participate in projects funded by federal grants.
- Ensures that the college can recruit and retain quality faculty and staff.

MCC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association (NCA), www.ncahlc.org, one of six regional accrediting bodies.

Purpose

HLC Accreditation

MCC - An HLC Pathways Pioneer!

In the fall of 2010, the Higher Learning Commission invited Mesa Community College to join a cohort of colleges and universities helping to develop and pilot a new accreditation process. MCC was the only Maricopa County Community College selected to participate in the HLC's Pathways Pioneer Project due to our long, good accreditation standing with the HLC.

This new process, called Pathways, has two focuses: Assurance and Improvement. The assurance process asks a college to submit evidence of its effectiveness and responsibility. The improvement process tasks institutions to develop an ambitious and meaningful Quality Initiative as evidence of the institution's commitment to improvement.

Pioneers

HLC Accreditation

Assurance

A series of active learning sessions focused on the HLC's new criteria for accreditation are being conducted with many key stakeholders across campus.

Improvement

MCC's Quality Initiative, called informed improvement, empowers a culture of evidence-based decision-making dedicated to advancing student success. Placing an iterative process of critical inquiry at the heart of every college unit's planning processes, informed improvement is premised upon the realization that every aspect of the college contributes to student learning and success.

QUALITY INITIATIVE



Quality

Assurance Process



Spring 2013

Began to identify evidence for HLC criteria

Fall 2013

College leadership and management trained on accreditation criteria

Gap analysis performed on criterion 3 & 4

Spring 2014- Summer 2014

Evidence is gathered

Assurance argument drafted

Fall 2014

Assurance argument drafted and shared with stakeholders and College

Forums on HLC criteria and Assurance Process

Spring 2015

Evidence is gathered

Assurance argument submitted

Open Pathway Project

Quality Initiative



Fall 2010-2012

MCC agrees to be an HLC Pathways Pioneer Institution

Develop and implement Quality Initiative – informed improvement (ii)

Spring 2013

Begin implementing Datasphere

Fall 2013

ii Resource Library unveiled

Spring 2014

First ii Expo

Fall 2014

Quality Initiative report submitted to HLC

Spring 2015

Second ii Expo

Timeline

Criterion 1

Mission

The institution's mission is clear and articulated publicly; it guides the institution's operations.

Video Overview

<http://bit.ly/hlcmcc1>

For the Visually Impaired:

<http://bit.ly/hlcmcc1vi>



Meeting

Criterion 1

MCC Employees Say

"I post the college mission card on my office board."

"MCC e-Learning meets regularly to align efforts with the college mission."

Our College Assurance Argument Says

"All planning and budgeting priorities align with and support the college mission."



the Criteria

Criterion 2

Integrity: Ethical & Responsible Conduct

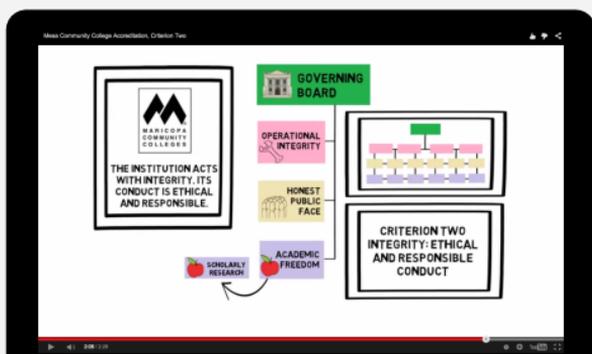
The institution acts with integrity; its conduct is ethical and responsible.

Video Overview

<http://bit.ly/hlcmcc2>

For the Visually Impaired:

<http://bit.ly/hlcmcc2vi>



Meeting

Criterion 2

MCC Employees Say

“Annual policy updates for students that align with college handbook.”

“Employees fill out annual acknowledgements and disclosures.”

Our College Assurance Argument Says

“The Governing Board represents all Maricopa County residents in the governance of the District.”



the Criteria

Criterion 3

Teaching & Learning: Quality, Resources & Support

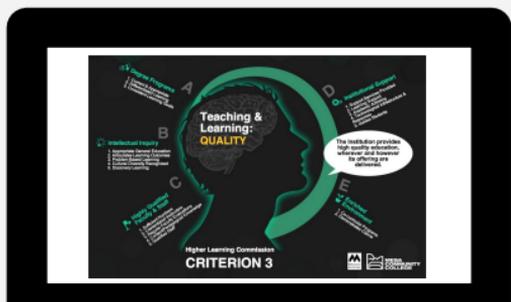
The institution provides high quality education, wherever and however its offerings are delivered.

Video Overview

<http://bit.ly/hlcmcc3>

For the Visually Impaired:

<http://bit.ly/hlcmcc3vi>



Meeting

Criterion 3

MCC Employees Say

“Red Mountain Library outreach programs activity.”

“The Math Department is engaged in improving student outcomes in developmental courses.”

“Life Sciences has flipped classroom discussion and implementation, instructor hosted tutoring, open labs, and a study room. They also added a special lecture series to create an enriched educational environment.”

“MCC recently received the Carnegie Engagement Classification.”



Our College Assurance Argument Says

“A comprehensive suite of student services are available at both SD and RM to help students overcome obstacles and succeed.”

the Criteria

Criterion 4

Teaching & Learning: Evaluation & Improvement

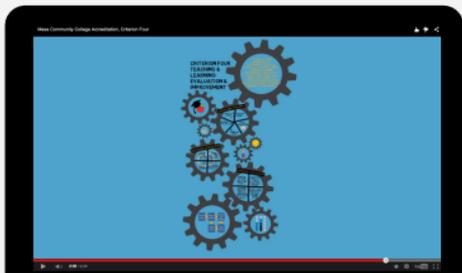
The institution demonstrates responsibility for the quality of its educational programs, learning environments, and support services, and it evaluates their effectiveness for student learning through processes designed to promote continuous improvement.

Video Overview

<http://bit.ly/hlcmcc4>

For the Visually Impaired:

<http://bit.ly/hlcmcc4vi>



Meeting

Criterion 4

MCC Employees say

“The Art Department is conducting creativity tests in selected classes to assess that our students are improving as critical thinkers and problem solvers by the end of the semester.”

“The 4 MCC "4C"s were developed by us for us, to improve the overall quality of education.”

Our College Assurance Argument Says

“All of our Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs participate in a process of program review.”



the Criteria

Criterion 5

Resources, Planning & Institutional Effectiveness

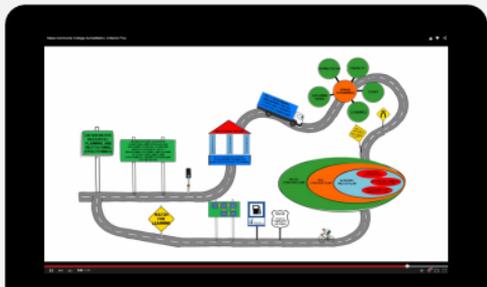
The institution's resources, structures, and processes are sufficient to fulfill its mission, improve the quality of its educational offerings, and respond to future challenges and opportunities. The institution plans for the future.

Video Overview

<http://bit.ly/hlcmcc5>

For the Visually Impaired:

<http://bit.ly/hlcmcc5vi>



Meeting

Criterion 5

MCC Employees Say

“Maricopa Priorities is a systematic assessment of all educational programs and support services that works to improve programs and services across the college.”

“The college Nursing Department has a current and “living” systematic plan for evaluation.”

Our College Assurance Argument Says

“The IT Strategic Plan has allowed the college to invest in technology in several areas.”



Time to Plan

the Criteria

The MCC Team

Dr. Shouan Pan

President

Mesa Community College



Matt Ashcraft

Dean of Institutional Effectiveness

Office of Institutional Effectiveness



Brian Dille

Residential Faculty

Political Science/Social Science



Visiting Team

Chair

Dr. A. Gigi Fansler,

Vice President for Academic Affairs /

Associate Professor of Education, Lincoln College - Illinois

Members

Dr. Alice Marie Jacobs

President, Danville Area Community College - Illinois

Dr. Joanna F. Blount

Dean of Academic and Student Services, Ancilla College - Indiana

Dr. Kimberly B. Kelley

Assistant Vice Chancellor, Institutional Effectiveness

University of Wisconsin - Parkside

Mr. Steve Nunez

Dean of Institutional Research,

Sauk Valley Community College - Illinois



Our Guests

Credits

For all you do,

Beth Alsen
Helice Agria
Preston Cameron
Linda Collins
Pam Dempsey
Sonia Filan
Timothy Florschuetz
Wade Harris
Craig Jacobsen
Jacqui Jesse
Lora Lassiter

Dennis Mitchell
Duane Oakes
Sasan Poureetezadi
Elisabeth Rodriguez
Christina Del Rosario
Kacie Takata
Meredith Warner
Patricia White
Roger Yohe



Thank You!

HLC Web App

Carry it with You!

Be in the know, on
the GO!



Visit MCC HLC
Web Application:

<https://tinyurl.com/MCCHLC>



The App



HLC Accreditation

March 2015