

# The Academic Update

## Issue 10

### 2019-20 Academic year

#### Strategic Planning

As we enter 2019-20 PCCUA has new Strategic Goals determined by its employees.

Strategic Goals

1. Support for Instruction and Learning
2. Development and Learning for Faculty and Staff
3. Reviewed and Revised Policies and Procedures
4. Improve Campus Connections (internal infrastructure, communications, alignments, consistency, service delivery)
5. Develop and Support External Partnerships

#### Co-Curricular Assessment

The PCCUA co-curricular assessment includes the student perceptions from those in clubs and organizations. This assessment helps gauge student learning, collect input from students, engage students in understanding the outcomes data, and informs decision-making. Responses to focus group session questions provides information about barriers and challenges students face, their knowledge and actions related to recommending the college to others, effective strategy identification (what has helped them), and practices which they believe should be changed.

The focus group approach is being used with students engaged in clubs and organizations, it is simple and composed of a few questions, and it provides important assessment outcomes. Students respond to questions about the College experience and their membership in the club or activity. A couple of questions highlight barriers and challenges students face, information students know and share with friends, and effective strategies which have worked well. The effective strategies are about what students like about PCCUA or the club or organization. Finally, students are asked to identify the kind of changes they would make if they could.

This co-curricular assessment paired with CCSSE outcomes is beneficial to gathering important student insights about the college and its organizations. The focus group sessions take less than an hour and there is a general survey which students complete at the end of the session about the general education competencies. This short survey is designed to establish a baseline of the primary competencies addressed by the club or competency,

#### Quality of Use

The College is also implementing an informal “quality of use” assessment of functional areas this fall. The functional areas which we plan to assess include Admission and Records, Advising, the Business Office, the libraries, and the bookstore. Career Pathways and Student Support Services have ongoing assessment through state and federal programming and the College recognizes those assessment outcomes.

#### Academic Leaders:

- Dr. Keith Pinchback, Chancellor**
- Dr. Debby King, VC for Instruction**
- TBD, VC for Student Services**
- Stan Sullivant, VC for Finance**
- Rhonda St. Columbia, VC for Advancement**
- Carolyn Turner, VC for DeWitt**
- Kim Kirby, VC for Stuttgart**
- Amy Hudson, Dean of Allied Health**
- Monica Quattlebaum, Chair Business and Information Systems**
- Applied Technology Special Projects, Linda Killion**
- Robin Bryant, Arts and Sci. Ch., ATD Core Team**
- Debbie Hardy, Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Student Success Coordinator (SENSE/CCSSE, Perkins)**
- Blake Cannon, Director of Institutional Research, ATD Data Team Leader**
- Aaron Germany, Dir. of the Career and Tech Ctr.**
- Glenda Sykes, Director of Student Support Services**
- Kim Rawls, Director of Career Pathways**
- Nicole Scarboro, Director of Gear-Up**
- Carol Birth, Director of Adult Education**
- Jason Jaco, Director of Institutional Technology**
- Barbara Stevenson, Director of Financial Aid**
- Von Daniels, Director of Enrollment Management**

### HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION

*Phillips Community College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (hlcommission.org), a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.*

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) is an independent corporation that was founded in 1895 as one of six regional institutional accreditors in the United States. HLC accredits degree-granting post-secondary educational institutions in the North Central region, which includes the following 19 states

Arizona	Michigan	Oklahoma
Arkansas	Minnesota	South Dakota
Colorado	Missouri	West Virginia
Illinois	Nebraska	Wisconsin
Indiana	New Mexico	Wyoming
Iowa	North Dakota	
Kansas	Ohio	

**HLC VIRTUAL VISIT WILL BE JUNE 29, 2020**

### **Adult Education-Carol Birth**

The Adult Education program again improved on its effectiveness and efficiency, increasing the number of GED completers and program graduates enrolling in post-secondary education. The program also supported its first IET (Integrated Education and Training) in partnership with PCCUA's CNA nursing program. In 2019-20 plans include participation in a distance learning/online instruction pilot program, and continued strong partnerships with local schools, the Department of Workforce Services, and community business and industry.

### **Career and Tech Centers-Aaron Germany**

The Secondary Center continues to expand our educational offerings to surrounding communities. Beginning in the Fall of 2019, the Stuttgart Campus will be servicing Stuttgart, Hazen, Clarendon and Carlisle school districts. Also, the Stuttgart campus has discontinued the Orientation to Teaching Program and, based on the recommendations from our stakeholders at the high schools, we have been approved by the Department of Career Education to start a Welding Program on that campus in Fall 2019. Ted Johnson will assume the responsibility of teaching the new welding classes while continuing to teach Advanced Manufacturing. On the Dewitt Campus, the Agriculture Program is no longer funded by the Department of Career Education. PCCUA and the Dewitt School District have agreed to continue the program through concurrent credit. On the Helena Campus, the Medical Professions Program continues to provide life skills training by partnering with the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension to offer periodic meal preparation classes for the students. In addition, the students are taught how to grow vegetables in flower beds that are built by the Advanced Manufacturing students on the campus.

### **Career Pathways- Kim Rawls**

The Career Pathway Program strives to increase enrollment and employment goals on all three PCCUA campuses. FY19 performance goals were met resulting in: 71- student attainments, which include Career Readiness Certificates, CP, TC and AA degrees. Career Pathways had 64 completers with 59 of those students gaining employment (92%). CPI staff will be working with PCCUA advisors to enroll students in the short-term training and academic programs throughout the fall and spring semesters. CPI will continue building partnerships with community agencies and organizations, and continue to assist students in reducing barriers that may hinder or prevent them from gaining the training or education they need to join the workforce. FY20 goals include increasing CPI enrollment by 10% and employment of completers by 5%.

### **GEAR UP-Nicole Scarboro**

GEAR UP will offer its partner school districts cross-curricular summer Reading PD to improve all teachers' understanding of the "science of reading" to build students' workforce readiness and increase Reading/Language Arts standardized test scores. This summer the Reading Apprenticeship Summer Workshop was in New Orleans at the Federal Bank of Atlanta New Orleans Branch in partnership with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Memphis Branch. It will continue to offer district administrators summer Professional Learning Community (PLC) PD to assist schools with learning, improving

effective teaching practices, supportive leadership and student results.

GEAR UP plans to offer its partner school districts an online intuitive learning system that provides differentiated classroom instruction and assessment to use during school and/or during after-school tutoring to increase students' math and Language Arts standardized test scores (ex. Curriculum and Associates IREADY Reading/Language Arts and Math Program). GU partner school districts will be offered Financial Literacy PD to assist with certifying/preparing instructors to teach the required Financial Literacy curriculum. GU will offer Coding classes at PCCUA to assist with certifying/preparing teachers to teach the required coding curriculum. It will continue offering its partner school districts summer Math PD to improve Math teachers' ability to increase Math standardized test scores (ex. Phillips Exeter Greer Math Conference).

GEAR UP will offer GEAR UP students week-long in-district and residential career-related summer experiences like the US Space and Rocket Center's Space, Aviation and/or Robotics Camp and Tulane University's Pre-College Summer STEM Camps.

### **Perkins –Debbie Hardy**

The Perkins grant provides funding for equipment/supplies, professional development, and contracted services for career and technical programs at PCCUA. The performance indicator for Perkins in these categories is completion. Perkins also provides various training for PCCUA faculty and staff that impacts student success. In April 2019, Perkins provided a professional development opportunity for NACADA to review the current PCCUA advising process and provide suggestions for improvement and to create a holistic advising model for student success. In May 2019, a Community College of Baltimore team conducted a Culturally Responsive Teaching session for faculty and staff.

In addition to the regular Perkins grant, the College was awarded a Perkins Reserve Grant which provided funding to purchase a third truck and trailer this summer for the CDL program.

There was a slight increase in the 2019-20 funding for the College under Perkins IV. Perkins activities for 2019-20 include equipment/supply purchases and professional development for career and technical programs and professional development for faculty/staff.

### **Student Support Services-Glenda Sykes**

The 2019-20 academic year will be the final year of the Student Support Services' (SSS) five-year grant cycle. The U.S. Department of Education is hopeful that it will be able to launch the SSS 2020-2025 grant competition this fall, with a pre-Thanksgiving closing date and an April 2020 notification.

SSS will continue providing academic and personal development opportunities for SSS students. SSS will also continue providing tutoring, academic advising, counseling, study skills workshops, assistance completing financial aid applications, transfer assistance to four-year educational institutions, and exposure to cultural events.

**Allied Health-Amy Hudson****ADN**

The use of intrusive remediation strategies across the ADN curriculum which include, but are not limited to: ATI assessment exams and remediation modules, faculty led tutoring sessions, a 5-week online NCSBN review course, and a 3-day, live ATI NCLEX-RN Review course hosted on campus positively have influenced ADN student achievement of end-of-program learning outcomes. As a result, the 2019 NCLEX-RN program pass rate is 95.65%, and the ADN program completion rate in 100% time for May 2019 graduates is 38.5%. The anticipated completion rate in 150% for this same cohort is 46%.

**PN**

The PN program completion rate in 100% time for the last three graduating cohorts is 36%, 37.5%, and 36.1%. In an effort to increase the PN program completion rate, applicants seeking admission to the PN program in the fall of 2019 must have a 9<sup>th</sup> grade reading level on the Nelson-Denny Reading Test (NDRT) and score a 47 or better on the ATI Critical Thinking exam. New admission requirements were based on analysis of prior applicants' NDRT and ATI scores and their performance in the program. The 2019 NCLEX-PN program pass rate is 100%.

**MLT**

Eventhough MLT graduates are not required to pass the ASCP BOC exam to practice as an MLT in Arkansas, the faculty strongly encourage all MLT graduates to take the ASCP BOC exam. Strategies implemented to ensure graduate success on the ASCP BOC, include, but are not limited to: administering comprehensive final exams across the curriculum, requiring students to complete at least 70 practice hours on the Media Lab MLT Exam Simulator, and having students complete an online ASCP Practice Certification Exam. As a result of these strategies, MLT graduates' 3-year average pass rate on the ASCP BOC has increased from 12.5% to 75%.

**PLB**

After analyzing student achievement of learning outcomes and clinical performance, the PLB faculty recommended increasing the number of lecture hours in PLB 113, Phlebotomy Procedures, and PLB 123, Special Techniques, from 48 to 64 and decreasing the number of clinical lab hours in PLB 116, Phlebotomy Skills, from 288 to 192. These recommendations were approved by the PCCUA Instruction and Curriculum Committee and implemented in the fall of 2018.

Increased instruction improved student preparation for clinical and resulted in positive feedback from clinical instructors. As a result of this change, all students in the fall 2018 cohort completed the program in 100% time and those who took the ASCP BOC exam (7/8), passed on the first write.

**NA**

The Division of Allied Health partnered with Career Pathways and Adult Education to provide assistance to

students enrolled in the summer Nursing Assistant program. Through Career Pathways and an Adult Education Integrated Education and Training grant, students received financial support for tuition, materials, and supplies. Students also received instruction in workplace and life skills and were provided with transportation to and from the clinical setting. Eight students completed the 6-week program, and all have been offered employment as nursing assistants.

**Applied Technology Division-Linda Killion**

As part of the University of Arkansas Workforce Alliance (UAWA) and the Arkansas Delta Training and Education Consortium (ADTEC) Implementation Grant, PCCUA has been able to:

- Upgrade and expand the welding labs on the Helena and Stuttgart campuses with new equipment and ventilation. Due to the increased interest and enrollment, welding classes will continue to be offered days and nights in Helena and nights in DeWitt and Stuttgart.
- Continue to increase the enrollment and success of the CDL program on the Helena and Stuttgart campuses. Since the inception of the program in Fall 2016, 56 students have received CDLs with a 100 percent completion rate in Spring 2019. Due to the growth of the program, a second full-time CDL instructor was hired July 1, 2019. In addition, a third 18 wheeler truck was recently purchased through Carl Perkins funds to ensure students receive ample driving time. The CDL program will continue to be offered on the Helena and Stuttgart campuses in 2019-20.

Through funds from ADTEC/ADAPT and Title III Grants, the recently remodeled Advanced Manufacturing Lab on the Helena campus is being utilized to offer various programs. The following new programs are being offered in Fall 2019.

- Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)
- Construction Technology

Through the Walton Foundation, the Transitional Training Opportunity Program (TTOP) will continue to be offered on the Helena campus. Through this program, participants can earn Certificates of Proficiencies such as Advanced Manufacturing, HVAC, and Construction in one semester.

The Welding Program Review has been completed and submitted to the Arkansas Department of Higher Education.

The Graphic Communications program has high retention rates and continues to meet productivity. The state of the art software and equipment and efforts to develop a 2 + 2 program are making it an attractive option for students.

### **Arts and Sciences-Robin Bryant and Kim Kirby**

The Arts & Sciences Division began the process of reviewing and revising their division assessment. A team traveled to Chicago to attend the intensive “Assessing General Education” workshop conducted by the Higher Learning Commission. The team consisted of Andrew Bagley, John Thompson, Bryant Lytle and Kim Kirby. During the workshop, they were able to interact with other HLC institutions as well as participate in a variety of hands-on activities related to assessment. During the workshop the team also developed a plan for the division’s review and improvement on the assessment of general education courses. This plan will be implemented in the 2019-2020 academic year with the involvement from all faculty in the division.

The math instructors continue to work with Mathways and to try new methods to move our students to and through college algebra faster. Alida Gookin and Gary Torelli were involved this year, and Brian Zimmerman will rejoin the group this fall. In February, the division met in DeWitt to do a curriculum mapping exercise as we worked to provide out part of the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan document.

The Behavioral Health department completed their program review for the Department of Higher Education. Thanks to Cathy Fullilove and Naomi Borchert for a job well done.

Bryant Lytle presented during the ACC annual meeting in Little Rock. His presentation was “This is NOT a Research Paper: Reflective Writing and the Research Process”. We encourage members of our division to participate and present at both statewide and national meetings.

We are also glad to welcome Jackie McMinn on the Stuttgart/DeWitt campuses and to welcome back Brian Zimmerman to the Helena campus.

### **Business and Information Systems**

The Division of Business and Information Systems had a busy but exciting year. The Information Systems Technology Program was awarded a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant for the Arkansas Delta Information Systems and Cyber (DISC) Technician Education Initiative. This three-year grant will provide professional development opportunities for faculty and focus on recruitment/retention strategies for the Information Systems program. Equipment/software for virtualization products will be added to the curriculum giving students more opportunities for “hands-on” experiences and preparing them for industry certification exams. A Testing Center was also established for CompTIA and Microsoft industry certification exams. Kathy Dulaney received certification as the approved Test Administrator for the Center.

The Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Program (ACBSP) self-study for reaffirmation was submitted in July with a site visit scheduled for September 2019. Kayla Holland and Monica Quattlebaum attended the ACBSP Annual Conference in Houston, TX. As part of the conference, both received training and certification as ACBSP Evaluators.

Computer Labs A107 and A110 on the Helena campus were redesigned with new work tables to accommodate 24 stations and A107 was also upgraded with 24 new student computers.

Through the OpenGate Grant project with UA-Fayetteville, computer labs A117 (Helena) and C110 (Stuttgart) were upgraded with new 27” monitors and additional memory installed in the 20 computer stations. The Division office area was relocated to A108 and A109 in fall 2018. Summer of this year, the space was remodeled to create two offices for the Department Chair and Administrative Assistant.

Tracie Karkur received her Master’s in Business Administration from UALR and Arthur Gentry received his Bachelor of Science degree in Education from UA-Fayetteville. Cindy Grove and Arthur Gentry attended several conferences and trainings including CISSA Cyber Security online courses, Arkansas STEM Coalition, High Impact Technology Exchange Conference, and Community College Cyber Summit Conference (3CS) to learn new technology and how to incorporate the techniques into the Information Systems curriculum. Through Carl Perkins and other grant funds, faculty participated in professional development workshops and trainings to learn teaching strategies to enhance classroom and online instruction.

### **Holistic Student Support Redesign**

The Holistic Student Supports Redesign was developed by Achieving the Dream and focuses on effectively supporting every student through advising and student services. Holistic student supports is defined as an approach to meet the students where they are, address their needs, leverage their strengths, and focus on student development and learning. This also requires the College to dig deep into the campus culture and identify barriers that students may face to achieve success. The goal of holistic student supports is to redesign student supports in an integrated, collaborative, and holistic way that enables students to progress along their educational and career pathway. PCCUA is currently participating in a holistic student supports initiative through ACC with community colleges in the state.



PCCUA is the only Achieving the Dream College in Arkansas and we are among a few distinguished colleges which are designated as ATD Leader Colleges