



Northwest Commission on College and University (NWCCU)
Annual Update for WSQA
Academic Year 2010-2011
Due October 15, 2011

College Name: **Columbia Basin College**

Contact Person: **Curt Freed, VP for Instruction**

Contact Phone: **(509) 542-4806**

Contact email: **cfreed@columbiabasin.edu**

Accreditation recommendations to the College and year of recommendation	Actions taken by the college to address recommendations	Improvement results
<p>Received February 3, 2011 While new tools and templates are in place for the assessment of student learning and program review self-study, they have not been fully implemented and integrated with planning, decision-making, and resource allocations across applicable core themes. The evaluation committee recommends that the College implement, across the institution, an approach to program evaluation that better aligns and vertically integrates all levels of assessment and that contributes to the achievement of program goals.</p>	<p>Columbia Basin College implemented a newly developed program review process and completed the first year of the review schedule. The new campus-wide program review process was designed Summer 2010 and implemented during the 2010-2011 academic year. The program review process has scheduled all programs and disciplines to be reviewed once every fifth year. The program review process has standardized questions that are addressed by the program/discipline, but other exploratory areas addressed that are pertinent to the needs and specializations of the discipline. These are generated through the process of creating unique “self-study” questions that are answered through the</p>	<p>Twelve program reviews are scheduled to be completed prior to the end of Summer 2011. Within each program review, summary conclusions provide strengths, weaknesses, and recommendations. Each of the weaknesses and recommendations have provided valuable concrete items that are able to be tied to budget and planning to assist the program/discipline to achieve better student outcomes. Programs and disciplines that will be conducting program reviews during the 2011-2012 academic year will be oriented to the process and procedures in September, 2011. Expected final results of those program reviews will be collected June, 2012. Programs reviewed in 2010-2011 will be scheduled for review again in 2015-2016, which</p>

	<p>program review. The process includes internal and external data, including an external evaluation of the program review. Strengths, weaknesses, and recommendations for each program review are identified in the summary results.</p>	<p>each successive year following a consistent five year pattern. New programs or disciplines will be scheduled for program review upon their five year anniversary.</p>
<p>Received February 3, 2011 Assessment of core theme indicators is evident and consistent. Assessment of student learning, plans for improvement, and implementation of those plans, is inconsistent across the core themes. The committee recommends that the College assess student learning, appropriate to the course themes, and use the results of that assessment of student learning to improve student achievement.</p>	<p>Columbia Basin College conducts assessments of student learning at the institution, program, and course level. The College continues to utilize TracDat as a repository of student learning assessments. The program review process has considerably improved program and discipline learning outcomes with the development of new tools being implemented by departments to perform better assessment student learning. Core theme indicators and goals have also been refined to provide better support of the core theme assessment and resulting planning and implementation of success strategies. The College's curriculum committee is also going to explore the development of Student Learning Outcome linked courses throughout the distributions, and will consider reforming degrees and certificates such that students will be required to take courses that fulfill the major assessment of each Student Learning Outcome. This recommendation will be the primary focus of the 2011-2012 academic year.</p>	<p>Programs that have conducted a program review have refined their program outcomes. Core themes of Cultural Enrichment, Physical and Emotional Well-Being, and Access have had considerable review and modification of core theme indicators, goals, and rationale through the annual review process conducted in preparation for the assessment of mission fulfillment. Additionally, it is expected that CBC's curriculum committee will adopt a modified degree structure that provides better assessment and record-keeping of students and how they have fulfilled the campus-wide Student Learning Outcomes. This recommendation will be the primary focus of the 2011-2012 academic year.</p>