

Steering Committee Highlights



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Highlights of the February 24, 2014, Steering Committee meeting

Dr. Lan Hao and members of the committee provided a Mid-Year Status Report for the 2013-2014 Strategic Plan Progress Report for initiatives within their respective areas. The next reporting phase for these focus area activities will be the presentation of the Strategic Plan 2013-2014 Progress Report at the June 9, 2014, Steering Committee meeting.

Mr. John Vaughan led the College of Completion literature review of an article on successful transfer strategies entitled: *"It Takes an Integrated, College-Wide Effort and Other Lessons from Seven High Transfer Colleges."* The Successful Transfer Approach Research (STAR) project was conducted in 2008 in order to identify key indicators from seven high transfer colleges. Through onsite interviews and focus groups with administrators, faculty, counselors, student support service providers and students, six key "transfer promoting factors" were identified: 1) a robust transfer culture; 2) a student-focused environment; 3) a commitment to the institution; 4) strong, strategic high school relationships; 5) strong four-year college relationships; and 6) effective support services. Although all of these factors are found to varying degrees in all community colleges, the STAR report emphasizes that the most successful institutions pursue them through unique courses of action that are organic to each institution. Viewing ALL students as potential transfer students and the connection to work/career options was also intrinsic to a successful "transfer culture." Strong faculty and staff "buy-in" was an essential element for high transfer colleges. The incorporation of transfer and completion strategies into an "integrated, college-wide effort" was discussed.

Ms. Roberta Eisel, Accreditation Co-Chair, stated that in preparation for a gap analysis report due on March 14, the accreditation co-chairs met and reported that the new process is working well and commented on how candid, willing, and open everyone has been during the data collection/interview process. Ms. Eisel also reported that the new accreditation standards were released in January, which verified that Citrus will be subject to the new standards in 2015. Also, the 2014 Spring Annual Report of the Accreditation Commission is requesting different information and that information that has been requested in the past be reported differently.

The committee also reviewed changes presented for Board Policy and Administrative Procedure 5015: Residence Determination and Board Policy and Administrative Procedure 5210: Communicable Diseases were reviewed and approved to be submitted to the Board of Trustees.

The minutes of Steering Committee meetings may be viewed at: <http://www.citruscollege.edu/admin/president/steering/Pages/default.aspx>