

Executive Summary on “2003-2005 System Plan”

(adopted July 2002)

Presented to Policy Committee

--Critical Challenges ... Goals ... Objectives

The North Carolina Community College System Planning Council met to review Critical Challenges proposed by our senior staff and to consider presentations on “Future Concerns/Needs for North Carolina” from participants in an electronic environmental scan. Subsequently, the Board’s Policy Committee, Planning Council, Presidents, Planners, and contributors to the System’s environmental scan were asked to review and comment on developed Goals and Objectives.

Background information and the proposed “2003-2005 System Plan” is presented to the Policy Committee for comment and future Board action.

Two items from Policy Committee review/action:

- **Review of our System Mission statement**
- **Adoption of 2003-2005 System Plan**

Modification Process to our System Mission Statement

At the beginning of each planning cycle the Mission Statement is reviewed. The 1998 Planning Council initiated changes through “rule making procedures” that concluded with the current working Mission Statement being adopted by the State Board in August 2000.

At the March Planning Council meeting, a staff member introduced a concern over the terms “student, training and retraining” and it was suggested that these words be replaced with “learner, education and skill development” where appropriate. In the discussion, it was suggested that the Community College System interest in “vocational, technical and global” needed to be highlighted.

No consensus was reached at the March Planning Council—it was recommended that a revised statement be passed on for future discussion. Pursuant to these discussions a draft was presented to the Board’s Policy Committee and e-mailed to Planning Council Members, Presidents, Planners, and Environmental Scan contributors.

With this action, the following version will remain the working Mission Statement:

The mission of the North Carolina Community College System is to open the door to high-quality, accessible educational opportunities that minimize barriers to post-secondary education, maximize student success, and improve the lives and well-being of individuals by providing:

- Education training and retraining for the workforce, including basic skills and literacy education, occupational and pre-baccalaureate programs.
- Support for economic development through services to and in partnership with business and industry.
- Services to communities and individuals, which improve the quality of life.

Adoption of 2003-2005 System Plan

At the inception of this planning cycle, it was deemed time to explore additional resources in promoting environmental scanning and planning as a community builder. Board Chair Woody and President Lancaster cochaired and presided over the Planning Council meeting on March 13, 2002. The purpose of this meeting was to review the results of our prior planning initiatives and to review assertions from an environmental scan that was conducted electronically. The Planning Council's long-term charge was to "position our Community Colleges to address the important needs of the many communities we serve..." by developing dynamic and flexible plans for these times.

A change in this strategic planning process was the inauguration of Critical Challenges introduced by staff as a focus of what the community colleges will address in the 2003-2005 time span. These Critical Challenges were presented to the Planning Council as (1) Economic and Workforce Development, (2) Enrollment Management, (3) Technology and (4) Resourcefulness. Goals and Objectives from the Planning Council's working sessions were presented to the Board's Policy Committee as a forerunner of 2003-2005 system plan. Following additional review and comments from our Planning Council, campus Presidents, Planners, and contributors to the Environmental Scan—this edition is presented for your comment and/or future Board action.

Goal 1--Economic and Workforce Development: To support NC businesses, industries and citizens in growing the North Carolina economy and to enhance the level of workforce technology by preparing competent workers.

Objectives:

- 1.1--Prepare the workforce for future occupations by enhancing basic workplace skill development—to include language, technology and economic literacy.
- 1.2--Partnering with business and industry to ensure that today's educational programs meet future workplace technological skill requirements.
- 1.3--Expand and enhance workforce preparation and skill development for workers (new, returning, and existing) by meeting current and future workplace skill requirements.

Goal 2--Enrollment Management: To meet increasing diverse learners' needs through innovative nontraditional and traditional programs.

Objectives:

- 2.1--Increase college flexibility in curriculum program start-up and delivery.
- 2.2--Utilize local, regional, and statewide partnerships to address the educational and skill development needs of learners.
- 2.3--Implement strategies that promote and increase participant success.

Goal 3--Accountability in the Use of Technology: To assess the effective and efficient use of information technology.

Objectives:

- 3.1--Develop tools for assessment and technology planning where needed.
- 3.2--Conduct system wide assessments on technology.
- 3.3--Implement strategies from assessment of technology.

Goal 4—Development of Resources: *To account for and equitably distribute appropriations and to continuously analyze and articulate resources necessary to fulfill the North Carolina Community College System mission.*

Objectives:

- 4.1--Maintain sufficient funding for enrollment growth.
- 4.2--Acquire and maintain state-of-the-art equipment and facilities for educational programs.
- 4.3--Procure competitive compensation for faculty and staff.

Recommendation

Adoption of 2003-2005 System Plan: It is recommended that these Critical Challenges, Goals and Objectives as developed by the System Planning Council and advanced by the Policy Committee be adopted by the Board as the 2003-2005 System Plan. These Goals and Objectives will be used to develop appropriate Action Plans, Outcome Measures and Budget Agendas for 2003-2005.