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to the Five Criteria for Accreditation



Criterion One – Mission and Integrity

The organization operates with integrity to ensure the fulfillment of its mission through structures and processes that involve the board, administration, faculty, staff, and students.

Core Component 1a. The organization's mission documents are clear and articulate publicly the organization's commitments.

- MCC's mission statement was reviewed by focus groups and approved by Board of Trustees. [Overview]
- MCC's mission, vision, and goals provide an overall direction for all College planning. [O5]
- The College's mission and goals serve as the primary framework for the design of MCC's other distinctive objectives. [2P1, 2R4]
- Alignment with mission and vision is a key component of planning processes. [5P1, 8P1]

Core Component 1b. In its mission documents, the organization recognizes the diversity of its learners, other constituencies, and the greater society it serves.

- The College serves a variety of student groups and stakeholders. [O3, 1P10]
- MCC is committed to an open door philosophy and admits any high school graduate or adult who is capable of profiting by continuing his or her education and who desires to do so. [O5, 1P8]
- MCC offers a wide range of support services necessary to meet the unique learning needs of students wherever they are on the path of lifelong learning. [O1, O6, 1P7, 1P15]
- MCC has as a General Education Goal "to identify and make responsible choices in a diverse world." [1P1]
- MCC is committed to promoting cross-cultural awareness. [3P2]

Core Component 1c. Understanding of and support for the mission pervade the organization.

- Each department at the College is responsible for developing and updating an annual plan with objectives that align with the College's mission. [O5]
- MCC's distinctive objectives are aligned with the College's mission and goals. [2P1]
- New employees are introduced to MCC's mission through a series of orientation activities. [4P4]
- The College's mission is communicated to stakeholders through a variety of methods. [5P6]
- Action Projects are established based upon their alignment with the College's mission. [7P2]
- Departmental plans are required to be in alignment with the College's mission. [8P2]

Core Component 1d. The organization's governance and administrative structures promote effective leadership and support collaborative processes that enable the organization to fulfill its mission.

- MCC recognizes that the development of curriculum and related academic policies and procedures is a shared responsibility of faculty and administration. [1P1, 5P3]
- The College has a variety of structures in place to support participative, collaborative decision-making. [5P3]
- Student support service needs are identified and analyzed through a number of collaborative processes. [6P1, 6P4]
- The College's AQIP Steering Committee facilitates broad-based participation in decision-making. [8P3]

Core Component 1e. The organization upholds and protects its integrity.

- The College has developed a process to make certain that the people employed possess the credentials, skills, and values required by the College. [4P2]
- The College has adopted an Ethics Ordinance and identified an Ethics Officer. [4P7]
- College leaders strive to communicate a shared mission, vision, values, and high performance expectations. [5P6]
- The College's Strategic Plan aligns with the Illinois Commitment. [8P1]

Criterion Two – Preparing for the Future

The organization's allocation of resources and its processes for evaluation and planning demonstrate its capacity to fulfill the mission, improve the quality of its education, and respond to future challenges and opportunities.

Core Component 2a. The organization realistically prepares for a future shaped by multiple societal and economic trends.

- The College considers the changing demographics of the District in its planning. [Overview]
- The College has developed a Facilities Master Plan to outline future campus expansions. [O8]
- MCC utilizes a variety of data to identify and analyze changing student needs. [3P1]
- MCC utilizes a variety of methods to analyze changing needs of its key stakeholders. [3P3]
- Student support services are designed by examining students' changing needs. [6P1]

Core Component 2b. The organization's resource base supports its educational programs and its plans for maintaining and strengthening their quality in the future.

- The College identifies specific skills, credentials, and values required for faculty, staff and administrators. [4P1]
- The College has a robust Professional Development Department to support professional growth of employees. [4P9]
- MCC has committed to strengthen leadership abilities among faculty, staff, and administrators. [5P7]
- MCC engages in long-term financial planning. [6P2]
- The College consistently monitors financial performance. [8P1, 8P2]
- MCC ensures that the capabilities of staff, faculty, and administrators will be nurtured and developed to address changing requirements. [8P8]

Core Component 2c. The organization's ongoing evaluation and assessment processes provide reliable evidence of institutional effectiveness that clearly informs strategies for continuous improvement.

- The College has established systematic processes to develop General Education Goals, program outcomes, and course-level objectives. [1P1, 1P2]
- All academic programs must complete a comprehensive program review every five years. [1P13]
- The College collects and analyzes data related to student learning outcomes. [1R2, 1R3, 1R4]
- MCC has a formalized personnel evaluation system. [4P10]
- The College has established Key Performance Indicators and a Balanced Scorecard. [8P1]

Core Component 2d. All levels of planning align with the organization's mission, thereby enhancing its capacity to fulfill that mission.

- MCC's mission, vision, and goals provide overall direction for all College planning. [O5, 8P1, 8P4]
- On an annual basis, employees set individual goals in alignment with departmental plans and the College's Strategic Plan. [5P1]
- The budgeting process is aligned with five-year financial planning processes. [6P2]
- The College's AQIP Steering Committee evaluates Action Projects based upon their alignment with the mission, goals, and Strategic Plan. [7P2, 8P3]
- MCC's collaborative relationships are built in alignment with the College's mission. [9P1, 9P2, 9P3, 9P4]

Criterion Three – Student Learning and Effective Teaching

The organization provides evidence of student learning and teaching effectiveness that demonstrates it is fulfilling its educational mission.

Core Component 3a. The organization's goals for student learning outcomes are clearly stated for each educational program and make effective assessment possible.

- The College has adopted General Education Goals. [1P1]
- The College has a robust process to determine specific program learning outcomes and course-level objectives. [1P2]
- MCC communicates expectations for learning outcomes. [1P6]
- The College's Assessment Team encourages broad-based participation in the development of processes for assessing student learning. [1P18]

Core Component 3b. The organization values and supports effective teaching.

- Instructional effectiveness is assessed and documented as part of the faculty evaluation process. [1P11]
- MCC recognizes outstanding teaching through a number of annual awards. [1P11, 4P11]
- The College has a robust benefits package with significant opportunities to pursue professional development. [1P11, 4P11]
- New faculty are required to participate in orientation activities to explore effective instructional strategies. [1P11]
- The College financially supports a faculty mentoring program to pair new instructors with experienced faculty members. [1P11]

Core Component 3c. The organization creates effective learning environments.

- MCC has established an effective and efficient course delivery system. [1P12]
- MCC reviews data to inform decisions regarding ways to address the learning support needs of students and faculty. [1P15, 3P1]
- MCC students are very successful in terms of the proportion who graduate or transfer within three years. [1R2]
- MCC students perform better than their peers statewide on occupational exams. [1R3]
- MCC students enjoy a high degree of success after transferring to a four-year institution. [1R4]

Core Component 3d. The organization's learning resources support student learning and effective teaching.

- MCC offers a number of opportunities to help students select programs of study. [1P7]
- MCC offers many opportunities to assist students who are underprepared for college-level coursework. [1P8]
- The College offers a variety of services to proactively address the needs of student subgroups. [1P10]
- Rates of MCC student success have consistently been higher than statewide averages. [1R2, 1R3, 1R4]
- MCC strives to maintain a strong relationship with students in an effort to support their success. [3P2]

Criterion Four – Acquisition, Discovery, and Application of Knowledge

The organization promotes a life of learning for its faculty, administration, staff, and students by fostering and supporting inquiry, creativity, practice, and social responsibility in ways consistent with its mission.

Core Component 4a. The organization demonstrates, through the actions of its board, administrators, students, faculty, and staff, that it values a life of learning.

- The College's vision is to be the community's first choice for a lifetime of learning. [Overview]
- The College is committed to an open door policy and to serving students of all ages and backgrounds. [O5]
- MCC has as a distinctive objective to support lifelong learning and personal enrichment. [2P1]
- MCC offers employees a robust benefits package including support for professional development. [4P11]
- The College supports employees' professional development and career growth. [5P6, 5P7]

Core Component 4b. The organization demonstrates that acquisition of a breadth of knowledge and skills and the exercise of intellectual inquiry are integral to its educational programs.

- The College has adopted broad General Education Goals. [1P1]
- MCC has multiple student organizations which are aligned with curricular learning objectives. [1P16]
- The College assesses gains in student academic proficiency in writing, math, reading, and critical thinking. [1R2]
- MCC is supportive of professional development of its employees. [5P6, 5P7]
- MCC supports students to continue their education through services offered by the Advising and Transfer Center, Counseling, and the McHenry County Workforce Center. [1P7, 9P1]

Core Component 4c. The organization assesses the usefulness of its curricula to students who will live and work in a global, diverse, and technological society.

- The College's General Education Goals are reviewed and evaluated every three years. [1P1]
- Academic departments complete a Program Review every five years to assess their effectiveness. [1P13]
- The College sends an annual needs assessment to employers to identify upcoming training needs. [2P2]
- Occupational and non-credit programs utilize input from advisory committees. [1P3, 1P4, 1P5, 2P2]
- MCC utilizes input and feedback from prospective students, current students, and community partners to establish new educational offerings. [3P5]
- MCC is open to considering requests and proposals from the community while rigorously evaluating their feasibility. [5P2]

Core Component 4d. The organization provides support to ensure that faculty, students, and staff acquire, discover, and apply knowledge responsibly.

- The College has identified as a General Education Goal to identify and make responsible choices in a diverse world. [1P1]
- MCC offers a number of opportunities to help students select programs of study. [1P7]
- MCC conducts follow-up surveys of occupational program graduates. [1R4]
- MCC has established an Ethics Ordinance and identified an Ethics Officer. [4P7]

Criterion Five – Engagement and Service

As called for by its mission, the organization identifies its constituencies and serves them in ways both value.

Core Component 5a. The organization learns from the constituencies it serves and analyzes its capacity to serve their needs and expectations.

- MCC maintains a number of key relationships integral to the institution's mission. [O9]
- Advisory committees are consulted for determination of program learning objectives. [1P2, 2P2]
- Input from advisory committees and the community is utilized to select new courses and program offerings. [1P3, 1P4, 2P2]
- MCC analyzes the changing needs of students and stakeholders. [3P1, 3P3]
- MCC engages the Board of Trustees, employees, and community in the Strategic Planning Process.

Core Component 5b. The organization has the capacity and the commitment to engage with its identified constituencies and communities.

- MCC has launched a comprehensive community engagement effort. [3P3, 3P4, 3I1]
- The College analyzes the changing needs of its stakeholders. [3P1, 3P3]
- The College's Strategic Planning Process is inclusive and involves the Board of Trustees, community leaders, employees, and students. [5P1, 8P1]
- The College has engaged the Board of Trustees in a strategic visioning process. [8P1]
- MCC has established a significant number of collaborative relationships in support of the College's mission. [9P1, 9P2]

Core Component 5c. The organization demonstrates its responsiveness to those constituencies that depend on it for service.

- MCC students have demonstrated outstanding levels of success. [1P2, 1P4]
- The College is frequently called upon to develop programming in response to emerging needs. [2I1]
- Results for satisfaction with workforce and economic development programs are overwhelmingly positive. [2R2]
- The College responds to the changing needs of students and stakeholders. [3P5]
- MCC measures and analyzes the success of underrepresented groups. [6R2]
- An increasing number of District high school graduates choose to apply for admission to and attend MCC. [9R2]

Core Component 5d. Internal and external constituencies value the services the organization provides.

- Credit enrollment has steadily increased over the last five years. [O8]
- The College's programs and services have been recognized as exemplary by external agencies. [2R2, 6R3]
- Students and graduates are satisfied with College services. [1R5, 3R2, 3R4]
- An increasing number of District high school graduates choose to enroll at MCC. [9R2]
- MCC's Shah Center serves 23 of the 25 largest companies in McHenry County. [2R2]