

The Strategic Planning Process

A comprehensive planning process was undertaken to gain broad input from internal and external stakeholders.

During phase I of the planning process, information and data were collected. The results of the 2012 Entering Student Survey were used to provide the student perspective. Through additional surveys, the College also reached out to its faculty and staff, advisory board members, foundation directors, and local businesses and industry. Information on external mandates and environmental factors were also compiled.

In phase II, the Strategic Planning Team took part in four half-day workshops. All divisions and employee groups were represented. Participants reviewed information and engaged in discussions to identify the College's strategic priorities.

In phase III, the Planning and Quality Improvement (PQI) Committee reviewed the ideas that had been generated at the workshops and came up with three main goals and 23 strategies to accomplish those goals. The 2013-17 Strategic Plan was launched in August, 2013.

The fourth phase is implementation. The PQI Committee will monitor the College's progress in accomplishing these goals and support continuous improvement efforts.

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Mission Statement

Prairie State College fosters collaborative relationships that empower students to achieve their education and career goals. The College embraces its diversity, nurtures life-long learning, and supports community and economic development.

Values

Learning
Excellence
Accessibility
Respect
Integrity

Vision Statement

Prairie State College will offer rigorous academic programs, meet the needs of the local workforce, cultivate the values of sustainability, and demonstrate an awareness of its responsibilities in a global society.



Strategic Plan 2013 - 17

Goals and Strategies

Prairie State College

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Start near. Go far.

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GOAL

1. Provide access to quality education and support services to help students achieve goals.

Provide access to quality education and support services to help students achieve their education and career goals.

Strategies:

- Ia. Develop a focused strategic enrollment management plan.
- Ib. Evaluate the first-year student experience, including the developmental education program, and implement changes to increase persistence and completion.
- Ic. Create clear education and career pathways to help students achieve their goals.
- Id. Explore, develop and expand programs that respond to community, business, and industry needs, while keeping in mind the importance of sustainability and a global perspective.
- Ie. Promote high academic standards by adopting best practices and improving the rigor of program review and assessment of student learning.
- If. Create additional student-centered support programs to improve retention and completion.
- Ig. Expand efforts to ensure seamless program-level articulation.
- Ih. Incorporate innovative technology that can enrich teaching and learning and improve technology support for students.
- Ii. Develop new ways to engage and communicate with students.

GOAL

2. Diversify funding sources while effectively managing resources.

Secure new funding sources while effectively managing and allocating current fiscal, physical and human resources to align with strategic goals.

Strategies:

- 2a. Secure new sources of funding.
- 2b. Make the budget process more transparent and allocate resources in a way that supports the College's strategic goals.
- 2c. Build the institutional capacity for evidence-based decision-making by strengthening data collection, analysis, and reporting systems.
- 2d. Integrate the values of sustainability into daily operations.
- 2e. Develop strategies to recruit, hire, train, and retain highly qualified faculty and staff.
- 2f. Maintain and enhance campus safety.
- 2g. Review workload and staffing levels and define service standards for everyone providing services directly to students.
- 2h. Develop strategies to improve communication and collaboration across departments and divisions.
- 2i. Implement improvements in the technology infrastructure, software, and training that would make College operations more efficient.
- 2j. Enhance facility management through better space utilization, improvements, and capital planning.

GOAL

3. Cultivate new and expand existing partnerships.

Cultivate new and expand existing partnerships.

Strategies:

- 3a. Cultivate new and expand existing partnerships with educational institutions, business and industry, and alumni.
- 3b. Collaborate with partners in support of academic program development and training, resource development, student internships and job placement.
- 3c. Develop new partnerships and resources to help students overcome socio-economic barriers to success.
- 3d. Engage local citizens, alumni, businesses and educational partners to increase community awareness of Prairie State's strong academic programs and services.