

A Student Success

Learning Environment for Student Success:

Advance our learning-centered culture, promoting student success in an atmosphere of respect, professionalism, and high academic standards.

A1. Promote a climate that fosters creativity and innovation to enhance teaching, learning, and assessment.

- A1.1 Research new degree and certificate programs that meet the needs of the community and marketplace.
- A1.2 Review the Industrial Technology programs to be sure they match local workforce needs, particularly in the manufacturing sector.
- A1.3 Continue to expand our focus and course development in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines.
- A1.4 Support faculty experimentation and innovation in teaching and assessment.
- A1.5 Encourage and support faculty interest in undergraduate research.
- A1.6 Research current and emerging careers in sustainability and green technology.
- A1.7 Expand the Learning Community Program.
- A1.8 Review tutoring and placement testing services and organizational alignment.
- A1.9 Encourage and support faculty engagement in co-curricular activities.
- A1.10 Incorporate college-wide learning outcomes in all disciplines.
- A1.11 Continue enhancing smart classroom technology across the college.

A2. Attract quality faculty who embrace student-centered learning.

- A2.1 Review the practices for the hiring, support, and supervision of adjunct faculty.
- A2.2 Update minimum teaching qualifications as needed.

A3. Encourage the hiring of faculty and staff who reflect the diversity of the students.

- A3.1 Examine Prairie State College's (PSC) search/hiring processes and recommend ways to identify, recruit, and encourage the hiring of diverse faculty.
- A3.2 Enhance our efforts to attract a diverse pool of applicants for faculty positions.

B Recruitment, Retention, and Educational Attainment

Targeted Recruitment, Improved Retention, and Increased Educational Attainment:

Improve recruitment of targeted student populations and strengthen academic performance, retention, and completion.

B1. Strengthen college-wide efforts to recruit targeted populations.

- B1.1** Establish target goals for retention and completion to guide the Recruitment and Retention Council.
- B1.2** Rebrand the Community and Economic Development division and create marketing materials that reflect the new image.
- B1.3** Expand the use of technology and social networks in communications and marketing.

B2. Establish a systematic, evidence-based approach to improve student retention and completion.

- B2.1** Establish outcome metrics to measure PSC's progress in meeting the national college completion goals.
- B2.2** Nurture institutional and cultural change and seek to improve retention and completion by focusing on the following areas:
 - student services;
 - course and program placement;
 - developmental education;
 - intentional advising;
 - early alert system for student academic progress;
 - tutoring.
- B2.3** Create new bridge courses to facilitate the transition of adult education and non-credit students to credit programs.
- B2.4** Improve students' access to information about financial aid and their understanding of the application process.
- B2.5** Increase student participation in extracurricular activities designed to bolster academic success.
- B2.6** Use grant funds to support the enrollment and persistence of African American male students.
- B2.7** Seek Federal TRIO grants to provide resources for enhanced support of eligible students.
- B2.8** Develop a volunteer program to encourage student leadership and service.

B3. Develop effective pathways for English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) and Adult Basic Education (ABE) students to move from non-credit into credit programs.

- B3.1** Revise the ESL/ABE programs to strengthen the skills students need to succeed in credit courses.
- B3.2** Gather information on ESL students to better understand and meet their needs.

C Resource Management

Effective and Accountable Resource Management:

Ensure the effective use of human, financial, technological, and physical resources.

C1. Collect, analyze, and use data to implement best practices and measure progress in all areas of administration and resource management.

- C1.1 Create and distribute tools to support evidence-based decision making.
- C1.2 Strengthen the College's capacity for strategic planning, continuous improvement, and institutional effectiveness.
- C1.3 Create Intranet Web pages to provide access to data tools, tracking reports, and strategic planning metrics.
- C1.4 Review state, federal, and other reporting to ensure the quality and timeliness of responses.
- C1.5 Improve the effectiveness and transparency of the budget process and align the budget with strategic planning objectives.
- C1.6 Update the Campus Master Plan.
- C1.7 Establish proactive capital improvement planning, preventative facility maintenance, and capital budgeting processes.
- C1.8 Create a sustainability plan to promote efficient use of resources, capitalize on the nature preserve, support good stewardship of the environment, and decrease PSC's carbon footprint.
- C1.9 Evaluate current emergency preparedness and make necessary improvements. Provide training to enhance safety and effective emergency management.

C2. Expand and improve professional development for employees to meet institutional goals.

- C2.1 Evaluate current programs and resources for professional development of all employee groups and make recommendations for improvements.
- C2.2 Incorporate a professional development element into all employee performance reviews.

D Community Partnerships

Strong Community Partnerships:

Enhance current and develop new strategic partnerships.

D1. Develop a comprehensive approach for establishing, maintaining, and strengthening mutually beneficial partnerships.

- D1.1 Work with district high schools to align learning outcomes to improve college readiness.
- D1.2 Partner with additional high schools to broaden the Early College Initiative.
- D1.3 Partner with four-year institutions to facilitate smoother transfer.

D2. Collaborate with community partners on grant opportunities and other innovative ways to share resources.

- D2.1 Continue to develop opportunities for cooperation and resource sharing through membership in the South Metropolitan Higher Education Consortium (SMHEC).
- D2.2 Participate in community and state partnerships to advance sustainability initiatives.

E Technology

Advances in Technology:

Expand and improve the application and effective use of technology across the College.

E1. Maintain the institutional commitment to implementing the goals of the Information Technology Strategic Plan by enhancing the following:

- The security of technology assets (E1.1);
- Business continuity/disaster recovery/failover processes (E1.2);
- Network capabilities across the college (E1.3);
- The quality of online teaching and learning (E1.4);
- The use of existing technology (E1.5);
- Technology support for end users (E1.6);
- College service offerings and processes via the Web (E1.7).

E2. Promote a climate of innovation in using technologies that enhance student success and administrative effectiveness.

- E2.1 Upgrade e-mail and software to provide faculty, staff, and administrators with a reliable, modern communications system on and off campus.
- E2.2 Implement desktop virtualization.
- E2.3 Extend the online registration process to Community and Economic Development programs and courses.
- E2.4 Automate additional financial aid processes.
- E2.5 Install computer kiosks in public areas to facilitate student access to records/accounts.