



President's Report to the Board of Education December 9, 2020

1. COVID-19 Matters

- As guidelines from external agencies have changed (especially OHA, OSHA, HECC, Governor's Office, and Douglas Public Health Network), the College has adjusted its practices. We conduct as much work as possible remotely and require masks both inside and outside with few exceptions. We updated our COVID-19 Health and Safety Operational Guide to include a quarantine and isolation guide, face mask Q&A, and a situation and protocol chart.
- Working demands are often overwhelming, especially for those employees working directly with multiple students (faculty, life coach, advisors, recruiters, tutors, etc.). Students often require more than usual one-one-one interaction due to the Zoom environment. Our faculty and staff are to be commended for their extra hard work, dedication, persistence, and adaptability as they work to meet our students' needs while also working with their own family members' schooling, taking care of family members, and accommodating the remote work schedules of other family members.
- We continue to utilize the Cares Act institutional funds. We received and distributed the instructional technology for faculty (training for use is forthcoming), are awaiting delivery of laptops for student use, and are polishing off a contract agreement for an instructional designer and online teaching/instructional design professional development for faculty.

2. Academics

a. Automotive certificate.

- The program modification form and all nine course modification forms have been completed, approved by internal bodies, and are in the process of submission to the state for approval.
- There are currently 35 individuals on the interest list that have been contacted and indicate interest in the new certificate.
- The new certificate has been approved for eligibility for displaced workers in Douglas, Coos, and Curry counties.
- The new one-year certificate will be the only certificate in the state meeting NATEF (accrediting body) AST level certification. This certification level will give the students certification equivalent to the expensive private tech schools.
- UCC's Automotive Advisory Committee has been and will continue to be heavily involved with the formation of the new one-year certificate.
- UCC's OEM business partners have been and will continue to be involved with the new certificate. FCA, Ford, and Subaru have all helped with the formation of the certificate. FCA donated four new light duty diesel engines to the program to support the newly formed light duty diesel course. If UCC had to purchase these engines, the cost would be between 20 and 40 thousand dollars. Toyota is looking to offer support to the program for certification of maintenance level technicians.

b. Nursing national accreditation

Ede Kramer, MSN, CNM, accepted the Nursing Accreditation Coordinator position on November 1, 2020. Since this time, Ede has completed a thorough review of two national accreditors that can accredit ADN programs: the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and the National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (NLN CNEA). Ede provided an overview of both ACEN and NLN CNEA at a recent nursing staff meeting, with the recommendation to pursue ACEN. While researching, Ede discovered that the NLN CNEA is not currently recognized by the USDE, meaning that this accreditation would prevent students from conducting clinical rotations in federal facilities such as Veterans Affairs hospitals. It was also discovered that there is too much variance between the Oregon State Board of Nursing and NLN CNEA requirements. The staff were in 100% agreement on moving forward with ACEN. Currently, Ede is taking a deep dive into ACEN Standards 1-6 to orient herself to each requirement. She has been provided with historical data and information related to UCC's previous work with ACEN. Ede and April Myler have created a new Canvas shell for national accreditation work so that information can be accessed anywhere. In addition to these steps, Ede will continue to provide ACEN updates at the bi-weekly staff meetings and will attend a virtual ACEN conference soon (date TBD).

3. Lockwood Hall Project

Office moves associated with the Lockwood Hall project are scheduled for December 7 through January 18:

- SOWI Office to Lang Center first floor
- Advancement Office (Communications & Marketing, Special Events, Alumni Relations, Grants) to Lang Center second floor
- Institutional Effectiveness to west side of Del Blanchard Administration Building
- Business Services to east side of Del Blanchard Administration Building
- Mail Room to Laverne Murphy Student Center

Construction work in Lockwood is scheduled to begin January 11 and be completed by July 1. Funds for the project come primarily from gifts to the College; 11% of funds are from the General Fund in a budget that had been set aside for the original Industrial Technology Center project.

4. Enrollment

- Fall enrollment numbers have remained fairly steady – no notable changes:
Relative to last year - Reimbursable FTE: down 18.9%; Credit Hours: down 4.8%
- Winter term numbers, though down relative to last year, are trending up. We remain diligent in the work to enroll students for Winter Term.
Five weeks prior to Winter Term:
Relative to last year – Reimbursable FTE: down 31.6%; Credit Hours: down 31.5%
Four weeks prior to Winter Term:
Relative to last year – Reimbursable FTE: down 12%; Credit Hours: down 24%

5. Athletics

- The ESports Arena is completed and ready for use.
- The annual fundraising drive led by student athletes and their coaches has been underway for 3 weeks (as of December 3); just over \$52,000 was raised by that date. Only 70% of the budget for Athletics is covered by the general fund; fundraising is essential to their operations.
- Competition is still slated for mid-February, but we are expecting an announcement soon regarding delaying the start date until spring term.



6. Facilities Usage

A plan for reduced use of campus facilities is near completion. Affected employees are being contacted this week about options for alternative work sites for the times that they need to be on campus. Closing buildings with minimal usage is part of strategic energy management during the pandemic. Some employees will have to make adaptations in order to help the College make wise use of our limited resources. The plan should be finalized next week and made effective January 4.

7. Accreditation and Institutional Effectiveness

- a. A response from NWCCU regarding the ad hoc report submitted in September is due to the College in January. We are on track with accreditation and institutional effectiveness actions planned for fall term:
 - Inclusion of institutional indicators and collaboration in tactical plans has been accomplished.
 - A guide for departments and various teams to facilitate ongoing, college-wide discussions about institutional effectiveness is near completion by the Institutional Effectiveness Committee; IEC is working on the methodology for tracking IE discussions by various committees and departments
 - Background work is underway on the use of Voluntary Framework of Accountability data for identifying peer institutions; comparative data are required by NWCCU standards.
 - A SPOC (Strategic Plan Oversight Committee) sub-committee has reviewed the current strategic goals and objectives along with the sustainability ideas generated by SLT and PC; their recommendations for continuance and modifications have been

made to SLT and will go to the full SPOC in February. In general, the sub-committee found that the current goals and objectives are appropriate for moving the campus forward in a strategic manner. Achievement of some goals and objectives have been slowed by conditions associated with the pandemic restrictions, and continued work on these goals and objectives is essential. Tactical and operational plans are adjusted annually and effectively deal with new strategies that will advance goal achievement and enhance the sustainability of the college.

- Membership of IEC has been expanded, and the purpose of IEC has been updated.
- A dedicated drive for storing evidence for accreditation has been created.
- Effective in November, monthly tactical plan updates are provided at SLT/PC meetings.
- The form for reporting tactical and operational plan mid-year progress is near completion.
- The search for an IE Director is underway; round 2 interviews are in progress.
- Groundwork needs to be laid to start writing the Year Six report in Winter 2021 Term.

b. NWCCU held its annual conference virtually on November 18. The conference theme was, “Promoting Economic and Social Mobility.” There were multiple sessions of significant worth; some takeaways include:

- College affordability depends on what you are buying. Is a college education an investment? Is there a good ROI? A college education provides opportunity and mobility.
- There is a need for skills development, such as those in the data science field, to be attached to programs of study; skills matter more than degree and unlock possibilities for hire and advancement.
- A new normal will emerge in the aftermath of the pandemic that will emphasize flexibility in how courses are offered and require stackable credentials that allow short-term success and increased employability. Competency-based approaches, new technologies, asynchronous learning, more purposeful learning engagements, experiential learning, and less seat time are likely. Artificial intelligence, internet of things, mixed reality, blockchain, and quantum computing will be at the center of re-imagining education.
- Students need affirming learning experiences that provide cultural belonging, social connectedness, faculty understanding and flexibility, and faculty assurances that students can learn and will be supported.

c. On December 7 and 11, NWCCU is hosting an 8-hour data equity workshop (4 hours each day). We have multiple participants. The workshop is presenting a framework that will help us embed equity into data gathering, analysis, and communication to increase transparency and intentionality.