

Standard I: Institutional Mission and Effectiveness

STANDARD IA: INSTITUTIONAL MISSION

IA. *The institution has a statement of mission that defines the institution's broad educational purposes, its intended student population, and its commitment to achieving student learning.*

IA.1 *The institution establishes student learning programs and services aligned with its purposes, its character, and its student population.*

Descriptive Summary

As a comprehensive community college, Fresno City College serves degree- and certificate-seeking transfer and occupational students, and provides lifelong learning. Over 250 degrees and certificates are currently offered to meet these goals. In addition to meeting the needs of these broader groups, programs are designed to serve specific target populations. For example, the Leon S. Peters Honors Program serves academically gifted students, while developmental education courses prepare students assessed below college-level math and/or English for degree credit instruction. Options are also provided for credit by examination, credit for military service, travel-study credit, field work credit, Advanced Placement, and College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) credit. Fresno City College also offers weekend, sunrise, and evening classes to facilitate student learning (IA.1).

The college offers a number of programs targeted toward specific student populations (IA.2,3):

- IDILE Program is designed for African American students to enhance leadership skills and assist in developing self-confidence to succeed in post-secondary education.
- Puente Project provides students with accelerated writing instruction, sustained academic counseling, and mentoring by professionals from the community. The course content of Puente classes has a Chicano/Latino emphasis.
- USEAA Program prepares Southeast Asian American students for transfer to four-year colleges or universities.
- Career & Technology Center (CTC) provides employable-skills training to students. Programs are open entry and run from 10 to 30 weeks. CTC teaches practical skills in an environment closely resembling the workplace to prepare students for their chosen careers.
- Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) provides a comprehensive program of services for low-income and academically-underprepared students.
- Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSP&S) coordinates needed services and courses for students with disabilities in pursuit of a community college education.
- Training Institute provides training, reeducation, and continuing education for business, government, and industry.

In addition, Fresno City College was recently awarded a federal Title V Cooperative Grant with Reedley College to develop a full online associate degree and extended learning centers (IA.4). This follows a Title V Grant sunseting in September 2005, which focused on the development of alternative teaching methods, including learning communities.

In addition to full-service counseling, guidance, matriculation, and financial aid services, Fresno City College offers the following:

- Online application and telephone registration to streamline the admissions process, facilitate access, provide faster service, reduce wait-lines, and increase accuracy.
- Health services provide confidential health counseling, screening tests, health education, and emergency first aid.
- Psychological services provide crisis intervention, faculty consultation, psychological testing and assessment, and assistance for a variety of issues.
- Employment Resource Center assists with job placement services for students, graduates, and employers.
- Child Development Center provides an enriched learning environment for children, as well as supervised training for child care professionals.

Assessment

As set forth in the mission statement, Fresno City College provides a wide variety of programs and services responsive to the learning needs of its population. These offerings include programs targeted to

specific populations; flexible class times; and courses in many academic, occupational, and certificate areas. Efforts to seek grant-based funding to develop new programs is ongoing.

The Accreditation Faculty and Staff Survey showed agreement among administration, faculty, and staff that Fresno City College makes a conscious effort to facilitate and support student learning and makes necessary changes to improve student learning (IA.5).

IA.2 The mission statement is approved by the governing board and published.

Descriptive Summary

The mission statement is approved by the Board of Trustees and is published on the Fresno City College web site and in the college catalog (IA.6).

Assessment

The mission statement was last approved by the Board of Trustees during the 2000 accreditation cycle.

IA.3 Using the institution's governance and decision-making processes, the institution reviews its mission statement on a regular basis and revises it as necessary.

Descriptive Summary

The Fresno City College mission statement is reviewed as part of the strategic planning and accreditation processes. The mission statement was last reviewed and approved as part of the 1999-2004 Institutional Strategic Plan. In Fall 2004, the mission statement was reviewed by the Accreditation Steering Committee and its standard committees, campus constituencies, and administration (IA.7). Campus constituencies include

the Classified Senate, Academic Senate, Associated Student Body, President's Cabinet, Instructional Deans, and Student Services managers. Minor changes are proposed for future implementation.

Assessment

As part of the accreditation process, the mission statement was reviewed with minor recommendations for changes. It is noteworthy that after five years, the college community believes that the current mission statement adequately reflects the charge of the college. The Accreditation Faculty and Staff Survey showed agreement among the administrators, faculty, and staff that Fresno City College has a strong commitment to a mission that emphasizes achievement of student learning (IA.5).

IA.4 The institution's mission is central to institutional planning and decision making.

Descriptive Summary

The college mission statement provides the overarching structure for the development of college goals and played a formative role in the development of the 1999-2004 Institutional Strategic Plan and the District Strategic Plan.

The diversity of programs and course offerings is evaluated regularly during the program and five-year curriculum review cycles. In addition to providing core degree and transfer requirements, the college offers and develops many courses and programs based on the needs and interests of the local community. This is evidenced by courses available in the police and fire academies, the applied technology division, the associate degree nursing program, and other allied health programs.

Assessment

The college mission statement provides structure for decision making. Evidence is found primarily in the Fresno City College Institutional Strategic Plan 1999-2004, the Program Planning and Evaluation Handbook, the college catalog, and the State Center Community College District Strategic Plan (IA.8,9,10).

Planning Agenda for Standard IA

Please see Planning Agenda under Standard IB.

Resource Documents

IA.1	Fresno City College Fall 2005 Class Schedule	IA. 6	http://www.fresnocitycollege.edu
IA.2	Fresno City College Catalog, 2004-2006	IA. 7	Minutes of Accreditation Steering Committee Meetings
IA.3	Program Brochures	IA.8	Fresno City College Institutional Strategic Plan 1999-2004
IA.4	Fresno City College and Reedley College Title V Cooperative Grant	IA.9	State Center Community College District Strategic Plan 2004-2007
IA.5	Accreditation Faculty and Staff Survey: Executive Summary Accreditation Faculty and Staff Survey Results	IA.10	Program Planning and Evaluation Handbook