



Eastern Wyoming College
Strategic Planning 2013-2014

Final Summary Report

August 2014

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Learning & Effectiveness

Strategic Planning has become an integral part of the EWC college processes. In the past eleven years, EWC has developed and implemented a number of plans that have benefitted students, staff, programs, and the physical campus. This document gives us a chance to reflect on some of the highlights of our accomplishments for the past year.

Funding for many of these activities and purchases comes from a variety of college budgets including professional development funding; grant funding such as Perkins, and ABE; regular department budgets; division and departmental budgets; BOCES funding; and other institutional funds.

Strategic Direction #1: Thoughtfully prepare our organization and our people for changing and dynamic times.

The college supports professional development for faculty, staff, and trustees by encouraging attendance to professional development activities such as workshops and trainings; conferences and webinars; local, state, and regional meetings; advisory groups; and memberships in professional groups. Some faculty and staff also provided professional development for others such as trainings and workshops; presentations at in-service sessions and conferences; and instruction for credit and noncredit work-related or program-related courses. The standardization and documentation of college practices and processes also falls under strategic direction #1.

Examples of completed action plans for this strategic direction include:

- continued offerings of robust in-service sessions for staff and faculty;
- attendance at numerous conferences and meetings by Board members, staff, faculty, and outreach coordinators;
- purchases of webinars for staff and faculty training;
- trainings by EWC staff and faculty for various LancerNet components and classroom technology;
- additional staff trainings for the new Colleague system;
- workshop offerings at outreach sites for SMARTHINKING and COMPASS Readiness for students;
- review and update of Governance and Operations section of EWC Policy manual; and
- continued monitoring of college performance in serving current and future community learning needs.

Strategic Direction #2 – Promote high quality, accessible learning experiences through responsive programs of distinction aligned with current & future opportunities.

Action plans under this strategic direction included everything from grant proposals, new student orientation activities, and student retention and recruiting initiatives. Completed action plans under this strategic direction included:

- hiring an agriculture instructor – Kaitlyn Steben;
- continued funding support for fall and spring orientation activities for new students;
- holding monthly meetings with agriculture instructors and Business & Technology Division Chair to work on curricula issues and work on facility plans;
- re-establishment of the Community Education Advisory group;
- obtaining the ETSS grant for 2012-2014 grant cycle, improving the ETSS case management portion of the grant, and embedding Job Preparation Training in curriculum for classes that enroll ETSS students;
- EWC music students traveling to the Colorado Symphony and the student trip to historic sites around the Southwest focusing on American Indian sites;
- partnering with McMurray Training Center to develop a CDL refresher course to meet workforce needs;
- education instructor participating in summer registration and recruitment activities;
- NASA Space Grant Consortium Scholarship dollars being awarded to EWC students, the science cluster faculty participating in Visitation Day recruiting activities and summer pre-registration days, and submitting and receiving an INBRE Grant proposal for 2013-2014;
- continue increasing awareness and access to library resources by EWC librarians conducting a training seminar for outreach coordinators, and creating and emailing a PowerPoint presentation to concurrent instructors throughout the service area;
- various program equipment purchases such as lathes for Machine Tooling, pencil sharpeners for classrooms, a solvent disposal system and locked cabinets for the Art department, various replacement and new equipment for the Science programs and Vet Tech program, and classroom supplies for Cosmetology and Health Tech programs;

Strategic Direction #3 – Embrace and invest in technology and modern facilities.

This strategic direction includes plans that affect technology and facilities. Completed plans under this strategic direction include:

- completion of a Masters Facility Plan to be utilized for future building projects;
- campaigning and winning a one-cent tax to help fund the building of a new Douglas Campus building;
- projects such as continued expansion of WiFi for Tebbet Academic wing and Faculty Link and wireless equipment throughout the residence halls, purchases of specialty

program software for courses, additional iPads for classroom use, and replacement of the Core Network Switch which were all funded through the Technology Fee;

- renovations on campus structures including carpet and windows in the Faculty Link, the remodel of the athletic locker rooms and the restrooms in the Fine Arts building, countertop replacement in the cafeteria, and various painting projects (doors, Activity Center hallways and gym lobby);
- purchase of ST Workflow, Application Utility, FA Award Acceptance & Loan modules for Colleague;
- purchase of a virtual server array and data storage system to replace existing data storage array, extended data storage array, email server system, domain controller servers, and operating system servers along with updated software allowing full connectivity to staff cell phones and mobile devices for email and scheduling;
- installation of uninterruptable power supply for the server room;
- purchase and installation of next-generation Datatel/Ellucian server system (Colleague) which was partially funded through the Wyoming Community College Commission;
- addition of a desktop computer in the accommodations testing room;
- completion of three high tunnels funded through a Wyoming Dept. of Agriculture grant and a Lowe's SkillsUSA grant, completion of the Livestock Barn funded through the institution and the EWC Foundation, and modification of the Large Animal Facility;
- purchase of software licenses for business courses including Quickbooks Update and Expressions Web;
- purchase of iPad cart and ten iPads for Douglas campus;
- purchase of microform reader/printer for the library;
- upgrade of audio system for Fine Arts, cafeteria, and gym;
- various equipment purchases for College Relations to improve productivity and efficiency; and
- numerous purchases of classroom equipment such as pedicure chairs, plasma cutting table, welding machines, tables and chairs, metal lathes, videoflex microscope cameras, projectors and carts, transcription machines, headphones, and lockers for the Fitness Center .

As a result of past strategic planning efforts, funding for workstation upgrades has been added to the college budget to provide upgrades for staff, faculty, and student labs throughout the college including outreach on a three-year rotational schedule. This year, approximately 200 units were purchased.

Strategic Direction #4: Enhance the quality of life for individuals, families, the community and region, and positively influence the economy.

Mutually beneficial partnerships help the college respond to the needs of students, community members, businesses and industries. The college has partnered with the following:

- area high schools by hosting the first state FFA Vet Science contest, visitations and involvement with FFA activities;
- Wyoming Department of Corrections to offer Plate Welding and Computer Applications courses to inmates;
- Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy to offer credit courses for cadets;
- healthcare facilities throughout the service area for offering clinic sites for CNA program;
- hosting an annual school partnership meeting where superintendents, principals, school counselors, EWC outreach coordinators, and EWC personnel can exchange ideas and information;
- facilitated meetings between college faculty and high school concurrent instructors in support of concurrent enrollment; and
- Members of the Board of Trustees, along with other college representatives traveled to the Lusk and Sundance Outreach sites to meet with constituents.

Strategic Direction #5: Recognize and extend our global reach.

- The Diversity Committee continued initiatives to strengthen EWC's relationship with diverse demographic and cultural communities in our service area. The committee has proposed and implemented several initiatives such as targeted staff development activities including in-service presentations on Bridges Out of Poverty; and recognition and displays in the display case for diversity awareness months.
- College Relations staff worked with the outreach sites more this past year than ever in the past fulfilling their marketing needs. Advertising was also increased in the service area communities.

Budgeting

Strategic Planning budget funding in the amount of approximately \$144,000 supported many of the activities and purchases listed above. In the past year, the college also utilized major maintenance and capital lease funding to continue renovation projects such as the Tebbet Academic Wing renovations and faculty link renovations. Special funding from the Wyoming Community College Commission was used to upgrade the Colleague system from a Uni-Basic language-operated system to a Windows based system. Career and Technical Education programs were able to purchase program equipment and attend professional development activities using Perkins funding. EWC Foundation funds, other grant funds, division budgets, and department budgets helped support many of the strategic planning projects.

Overall, strategic planning expenditures and planning have served to strengthen the institution and improve areas including Physical Plant, Student Services, Learning, Administrative Services, College Relations, and Institutional Development.