

**EPOC/ASC** (Educational Planning and Oversight Committee/Accreditation Steering Committee)

**Charge:** EPOC oversees and directs the general work of the councils, monitors institutional progress toward achieving college goals, and provides recommendations to the college president. It also serves as the Accreditation Steering Committee.  
*Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month*

Chairs: Susan Mills, administrative co-chair, Kathleen Sell, presiding faculty chair

Accreditation Liaison: Hayley Ashby

Student Representative: Maritza Jeronimo, Clara Velarde

### **Leadership Councils**

*All councils meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month*

**ACTPIS** (Academic & Career Technical Programs and Instructional Support Leadership Council)

Chairs: Juliana Leung, presiding faculty chair; administrative co-chairs, Carol Farrar, Tony Rizo, staff co-chair & Gaby Hinojoso student co-chair

**IE** (Institutional Effectiveness Leadership Council)

Chairs: Debbie Cazares, presiding faculty chair; Susan Mills administrative co-chair; Regina Miller, staff co-chair &, student co-chair (vacant)

**RDAS** (Resource Development and Administrative Services Leadership Council)

Chairs: Paul O'Connell, presiding faculty chair; administrative co-chair, Chip West; Stephen Ashby, staff co-chair &, Angelica Cachuela, student co-chair

**SAS** (Student Access and Support Leadership Council)

Chairs: presiding faculty chair, Eddie Perez; FeRita Carter, administrative co-chair; Tony Ortiz, staff co-chair & Camilla Marquez, student co-chair

**At Large Faculty Members:** Scott Blair, Physical Resources Committee; Virginia White, Program Review Committee; vacant, Enrollment Management Committee

## **November/December 2017 Riverside City College Strategic Planning News and Updates**

### **Updates**

#### **Strategic Planning Prioritization Process**

The first prioritization meeting was held on Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> and was a question and answer session with each VP available to address any questions about the plans presented for each of their areas.

The second meeting on Thursday Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> will be when the joint councils prioritize. The joint councils' recommendation will be drafted following the meeting, shared with each of the council chairs, and then sent to EPOC for action before being sent to the President.

Disciplines will complete updates to their Program Reviews in March 2018; then Deans will work on Division plans to integrate the plans coming from disciplines and departments. The new faculty positions announced will be prioritized as part of the regular program review/prioritization cycle, meaning they will filter up from discipline/department to Dean and then to VP/Area plans and will be up for prioritization in Fall 2018.

#### **Fall Strategic Planning Retreat**

The Fall Strategic Planning Retreat was held on October 27<sup>th</sup> from 8-12pm and included all council members, EPOC membership, Senate, and Chairs. The retreat had two foci: Clustering RCCs programs into "meta-majors" and the kick off/introduction to the next Accreditation cycle (see below for details on Accreditation timelines/work for the spring).

As a follow up the preliminary work on meta-majors done at the retreat, the suggested clusters were taken to a student focus group on December 1<sup>st</sup> for discussion and input. The results of both activities will be presented at Spring Flex as the college moves towards finalizing clusters/meta-majors as part of its work on Guided Pathways.

#### **Leadership Councils**

See the Strategic Planning Website for council minutes, agendas, and updates: <http://www.rcc.edu/about/president/strategic-planning/Pages/Strategic-Planning.aspx>

## Accreditation

Preparations for the College’s comprehensive external evaluation visit in March 2020 are well underway. An [overview](#) of the accreditation timeline, organization, and changes to the standards since the last visit were presented at the Fall Strategic Planning Retreat.

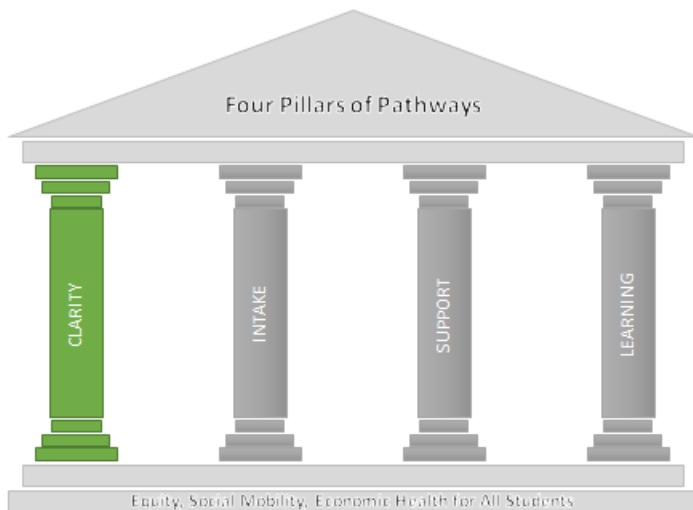
The college will be taking advantage of process improvements implemented since the last accreditation cycle. Existing strategic planning councils and committees, which are aligned with the standards and comprised of all necessary stakeholders, will help draft the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER). EPOC will also serve as the Accreditation Steering Committee.

Presentations on specific standards have been provided to respective councils and committees during their regular meetings. Accreditation materials are being prepared and additional training is planned for early spring semester.

### ACCREDITATION 2020 TIMELINE



## Spotlight: Guided Pathways Pillar 1: Clarify the Path



Over the next few newsletters, we'll explore each of the pillars of the Guided Pathways Model. In its essence, Guided Pathways is “an integrated, college-wide approach to student success that creates a college GPS for our students to navigate their way through their entire higher education experience to completion” (Strobel and Christian 1). The primary focus of the first of the four pillars of the model—clarifying the paths—is providing a detailed “GPS” system for students, mapping out a clear, coherent route to their final academic/ career goals. This entails a shift from

aggregating a collection of classes into a program to designing programs (re-designing, adjusting) with the destination/ ends in mind. The work undertaken this fall semester on developing clusters or “meta-majors” that organize all RCCs degrees and certificates into groups based on career goals will provide a visual entry point for students to help them identify the degrees/ certificates here at RCC that can help them reach their end goals. Organizing RCC’s degrees and programs into meta-majors/ clusters also helps students who may not have a clear sense of their goals yet to begin the process of narrowing the field. So choosing, say, an exploratory pathway in STEM or Liberal Arts/ Humanities can help students make progress toward their degrees while still giving them the chance to gain exposure to different disciplines/ fields that can help them choose their ultimate educational/ career goal more effectively.

A good GPS system requires clear maps to get students from their starting point to their end destination, so the key component of pillar one is creating clear, easy to read, accurate program maps. Effective program maps have several key features: 1) detailed information on target career and transfer outcomes; 2) clearly mapped course sequences with clear information about critical gateway courses, progress milestones, and where applicable, embedded credentials; 3) clearly aligned math and other core coursework that supports the specific learning outcomes for each program; 4) identification of any appropriate co-curricular support. For programs with already clear outcomes and course sequences (such as ADTs and certificates), this process will involve ongoing review/ adjustments rather than wholesale redesign along with careful attention to specifying career and transfer outcomes, identifying gateway and milestone courses, identifying the “right math,” making recommendations for general education coursework, and identifying any co-curricular support that will help students succeed.

The program mapping process entails not eliminating choice but narrowing the sometimes overwhelming range of choices for students to focus on those that most closely correspond to the learning outcomes of programs. For some degrees/ certificates, a wider range of options/ choices may still be appropriate, but offering students some guidance will help provide a clearer route through RCC for them and a clearer understanding of how all of their coursework contributes to their end goals. For a good discussion of

### PILLAR #1: CLARIFY THE PATHS

Map all programs to transfer and career and include these features:

- Detailed information on target career and transfer outcomes
- Course sequences, critical courses, embedded credentials, and progress milestones
- Math and other core coursework aligned to each program of study

from CA Guided Pathways project  
<https://www.caguidedpathways.org/resou>

questions and concerns about reducing students' choice and room to explore, please see "Guided Pathways Demystified" by Rob Johnstone (linked in the resources below). Pathways aims to simplify, clarify, not eliminate choice and aims to help students identify and complete their educational goals sooner and less expensively.

RCC will be holding a program mapping day on January 26<sup>th</sup> to bring faculty and counselors together to work on creating, fleshing out, refining program maps with the goal that all degrees/ certificates offered at RCC will have clear program maps with all of the components outlined above in place by the end of the Spring term. This is a big undertaking, but the college has already made significant strides in developing program outcomes and course sequences and rotations that make it possible for students to complete their degree/ certificate within two years. The work this coming year will build on those efforts.

### **Update on RCC's Guided Pathways Work**

The RCC Guided Pathways team attended the second institute November 30<sup>th</sup> through Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>. The second institute focused on program mapping as will the 3<sup>rd</sup> institute to be held on February 8<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup>.

The Guided Pathways Committee has met three times and has completed the work on the State Chancellor's Office self-assessment for the Chancellor's Office Guided Pathways program, which dovetails with RCC's work in the California Guided Pathways project.

To continue the work of refining RCC's Program Maps, the college will host a program mapping day on Friday January 26<sup>th</sup>. Faculty who attend can receive either Flex credit or special projects.

### **Resources**

- California Guided Pathways Project <https://www.caguidedpathways.org/>
- California Community Colleges Guided Pathways <http://cccgp.cccco.edu/>
- RCC's Guided Pathways page <http://www.rcc.edu/about/president/strategic-planning/Pages/Pathway.aspx>
- Johnstone, *Guided Pathways Demystified* [https://www.aacc.nche.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Guided\\_Pathways\\_Demystified\\_Johnstone.pdf](https://www.aacc.nche.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Guided_Pathways_Demystified_Johnstone.pdf) and *Guided Pathways Demystified II*, <http://ncii-improve.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/GP-Demystified-II-091517.pdf>
- *What is the Guided Pathways Model?* Strobel and Christian, Bakersfield College <https://committees.kccd.edu/sites/committees.kccd.edu/files/H.%20Pathways-Model%20NS.pdf>
- Bailey, Jaggars, and Jenkins. *Redesigning America's Community Colleges: A clearer Path to Student Success*. Harvard UP, 2015.

## **Spotlight: Dual Enrollment, CCAP Agreements, and Early College High School**

RCC's Dual Enrollment Task Force has been working diligently to finalize our College and Career Access Pathway (CCAP) Agreements with our largest K-12 partner, Riverside Unified School District. The Task Force is implementing the college's strategic plan to engage meaningfully in pathways for completion of career & technical education and for transfer.

CCAP Agreements are a unique way of expanding dual enrollment for students who may not already be college bound or who are underrepresented in higher education. The work of the Task Force aligns perfectly with the college's efforts within the Guided Pathways framework, in that the coursework offered is by-design a clearly mapped-out course sequence "on-ramping" to a college academic cluster. An RUSD student who is able to fully participate in the program will be able to complete his/her first year of RCC coursework while still in high school, shortening the time to completion and transfer; while those on a slower pace, will be able to improve college and career readiness.

Currently, counselors and key faculty from RCC are collaborating with RUSD to finalize the first few pathways. The roll-out of the first CCAP program courses is scheduled to begin in Fall of 2018 and will be fully implemented over the next three years. As the college completes the work of program mapping within the Guided Pathways framework, additional pathways may be identified for inclusion in future CCAP agreements.

RCC is continuing to work with Alvord Unified and Jurupa Unified School Districts on similar agreements. For questions or more information about Dual Enrollment and CCAP, contact Carol Farrar.

## **Save the Date**

- Friday January 26<sup>th</sup>—Program Mapping Day (contact Susan Mills/ Kathleen Sell for more information).

### **Plan Ahead:**

- Leadership Councils have their first spring meeting the first week back of spring term, Thursday February 15<sup>th</sup>
- Spring Strategic Planning Retreat: Friday March 9<sup>th</sup> 8-12 p.m. followed by an afternoon training/work session on program review from 1-3 p.m.