

PALO VERDE COLLEGE STRATEGIC PLAN

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VISION

Palo Verde College will be known for excellence—educationally, socially, economically and culturally.

MISSION

Palo Verde College provides an exemplary learning experience that promotes student success, lifelong learning and community development.

VALUES

Excellence

Palo Verde College is committed to excellence. The College expects quality instruction and services, and applauds the achievement of its students, faculty and staff.

Learning

Palo Verde College facilitates life long learning and encourages scholastic achievement. The College believes that knowledge, understanding and their application are keys to a better future.

Integrity and Ethics

Palo Verde College maintains the highest standards of ethics and integrity. The College consistently demands respect, honesty and fairness in its educational programs, professional interactions and community relations.

Diversity

Palo Verde College celebrates diversity in its students, in its faculty and staff, and in its community. Diversity enriches us all and strengthens our community.

Creativity

Palo Verde College supports and encourages creativity and innovation.

Civic Responsibility

Palo Verde College supports the continuous development of civic responsibility.

Initiative 1 Instructional Programs

- Goal: Implement a well-defined two-year programs leading to certification, graduation, transfer, and personal growth and career enhancement, defined by departments and advisory committees and supported by the institution and its technology.
- Objective 1: Accelerate the remediation of students by expanding tutorial resources: allow professors to devote some office hour time to tutoring; increase offered labs to areas outside math and English; encourage qualified staff to offer tutoring services.
- Objective 2: Continuously evaluate the quality and number of college-level courses and programs to maintain their academic rigor and currency and to ensure they address satisfactorily the evolving needs of students.
- Objective 3: Improve counseling and information services for new and returning students to help guide them in options for careers, further education, and vocations.
- Objective 4: Implement a 2-year cycle of courses to facilitate timely of completion for the AA and AS degrees.
- Objective 5: Offer courses that encourage personal growth and career enhancement.
- Objective 6: Add a community service component or combined college-business program (such as internships) to more courses. Consult with the Regional Occupational Program currently in place and the high school for suggestions.

Initiative 2 Recruitment and Enrollment

- Goal: Attract and retain the maximum number of students enrolled in clearly-defined programs of study to ensure fully funded enrollment and to enhance student performance outcomes and success.
- Objective 1: Expand the College's marketing and public relations function to include student enrollment and retention management. The principal responsibilities of this function would be to assist in the planning and implementation of academic and vocational programs to maximize student outcomes and student success.
- Objective 2: Prepare an ongoing community, labor market, needs assessment (quantitative and qualitative) and survey to determine the needs of students currently attending Palo Verde College, and publicize information that will be used to plan courses, programs, and schedules.
- Objective 3: Identify an Ombudsman who is responsible for explaining and interpreting campus policies and procedures, with the objective of improving College relations, internal and external.

Objective 4: Implement an ongoing comprehensive and aggressive marketing campaign the objectives of which are to: 1) encourage members of the community to participate directly in campus programs and activities; and 2) publicize rigorously the College's activities and programs in the greater Blythe and Needles communities.

Initiative 3 Student Success

Goal: Increased number of graduates, knowledge of services, percentage of transfers, employment, program completions and retention.

Objective 1: Coordinate class schedules and educational plans more effectively to ensure achievement of student learning and outcomes through implementation of sequential educational pathways.

Objective 2 Encourage students to participate early in their College careers in activities, such as orientation and GES courses, that will enhance their academic performance and learning outcomes.

Objective 3: Increase student participation in campus activities that are directly applicable to their career and educational plans and personal and professional development, and that will help build a sense of campus community and belonging.

Objective 4: Implement programs, such as the summer bridge program, encouraging high school juniors and seniors to enroll in College courses.

Objective 5: Implement a system to track student progress during and after their college experience, and use the results and feedback to improve the effectiveness of programs.

Objective 6: Encourage opportunities, such internships, community service and exchange programs, providing students with a diverse learning experience.

Objective 7: Expand the College Writing Lab into a learning resource available to students enrolled in courses in addition to English.

Initiative 4 Organizational Development

Goal: Create an institutional environment that meets the needs of all students and personnel, and one in which people have a sense of belonging and an understanding of the organizational structure.

Objective 1: Update the collegial governance chart by the end of the 2004-05 academic year.

- Objective 2: Implement an orientation process for new hires, beginning in the 2005-06 academic year that provides for: a mentor for each new employee, general orientation, specialized orientation by function, and follow-up orientation.
- Objective 3: Encourage participatory governance in College activities.
- Objective 4: Adjunct faculty will attend a division meeting and orientation at least once per semester. Add adjunct faculty to the general and faculty distribution lists.
- Objective 5: Establish annual project goals and objectives for the institutional research function.

Initiative 5 Technology

- Goal: Ensure that state-of-the-art information technology and media are used by a highly-skilled college community.
- Objective 1: Ensure that the College has a technology training plan that is cost-effective, directly applicable to immediate needs, and reviewed and updated regularly.
- Objective 2: Incorporate the goals of the Technology Master Plan 2004-07 into the goals of the College's Strategic Plan.
- Objective 3: Ensure adequate IT staff to meet current College needs and purchase and implement another module of the network management system to insure movement toward on-line registration.
- Objective 4: Immediately hire an IT employee who can access and made available to authorized staff student data and information needed in decision-making process.