

Master Academic Plan Summary

The Saint Paul College Master Academic Plan is organized into strategies and accompanied by action plans intended to fulfill the vision, mission and strategic goals of the College as it applies to the academic affairs and student development and service functions of Saint Paul College.

The strategies come directly from the Strategic Plan, and may be summarized as follows:

1) Provide seamless, comprehensive learning opportunities for diverse, life-long learners:

The College will continue its legacy of providing occupational and transfer education to meet learner needs and ensure program vitality and curriculum quality in response to the needs of learners and the business, industry and community constituents. Learning will be the focus of its efforts.

- Increase learning opportunities in the liberal arts & sciences and the occupational career programs.
- Review and align general education & transfer requirements.
- Develop “fast-track” programs for adult students.
- Increase enrollment, job placement and transfer rates.

2) Commit to quality and continuous improvement through accreditation and self-assessment:

The College will continue its efforts at continuous quality improvement through the AQIP process to better analyze, understand and explore opportunities for improving its processes and educational effectiveness. Continuous improvement of systems and performance measurement will be the focus of its efforts.

- Continue regional and professional accreditation efforts to ensure quality, accountability and continuous improvement of programs, systems and processes.
- Improve academic decision-making through data collection and systems development.

3) Apply technology to enhance teaching and learning and institutional effectiveness:

The College will continue to use technology whenever it may be used to accomplish the College mission and improve effectiveness and efficiency to better meet the needs of students, the community and employees.

- Increase access to learning & services through web-based information portals.
- Address diverse learning needs and actively engage students through technology enhancements.
- Improve student & stakeholder communication and responsiveness through web-based technology.

Diversity



Vitality



Community

Educational Philosophy: *There is dignity in work and value in personal growth and learning.*

Assess student learning and academic achievement:

The College will gather information, measure its processes and evaluate results to improve student learning and academic achievement. Results will be used to improve learning systems for students.

- Assess student learning outcomes for each academic program.
- Assess student opinions on-line and benchmark satisfaction.
- Re-align intake assessment requirements to academic programs and reevaluate placement and transfer requirements.

Expand academic/student financial resources through research and grant writing:

The College will pursue entrepreneurial opportunities to expand financial capabilities to better meet the needs of students and continue its legacy of high-quality teaching and learning.

- Secure additional resources for academic innovation projects.
- Continue fundraising activity to expand Power of YOU program.
- Analyze data for greater academic/student program performance and quality.

Implement a learner-centered success model for student development and services:

The College will develop a plan to better serve and retain its diverse student population and to make the environment welcoming to all.

- Provide retention services & strategies to meet System targets.
- Create student life and continuing education activities to engage students & the community.
- Market programs that promise career pathways for diverse learners.

Develop and support partnerships and outreach opportunities with various constituent groups:

The College will respond to changing demographics and environmental factors through program promotion, organizational alignment, collaboration and cooperation with partners and constituents to better meet student, community and workforce needs.

- Collaborate with Saint Paul Public Schools to provide opportunities for students.
- Utilize business & industry partners to ensure program quality, support & innovation.
- Partner with other higher education institutions.

American higher education in the 21st century will be a spectrum of choices for learners ranging from the truly traditional to the totally transformed.

M.G. Dolence, Transforming Higher Education. 1997



235 Marshall Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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