Multi-Campus Report

MCC – Penn Valley

Higher Learning Commission

A Commission of the North Central Association

September 2015
Overview

Metropolitan Community College comprises five full-service campuses (Blue River, Business and Technology, Longview, Maple Woods, and Penn Valley), with certain centralized services and operational support provided by an administrative center located next to the Penn Valley campus. Nursing and allied health programs are offered at the Health Science Institute, which is a building with limited services located several blocks from the Penn Valley main campus. The Institute for Workforce Innovation (IWI) is located at the BT campus, and provides the following services: open enrollment short-term non-credit workforce development programs, customized training and consulting services for regional businesses and organizations, hosting of the Region VII OSHA Training Institute Education Center, and management of the Missouri Works Training Program. The five campuses, administrative center, and Health Sciences Institute are often collectively referred to as a district.

The board of trustees has fiduciary responsibility for the district, but day-to-day management is delegated to the chancellor and administration as described in Criterion 2 of the assurance argument. The executive leadership team of the district, also known as the officers, is a group that includes the chancellor, five presidents (one responsible for each campus), as well as three vice chancellors with district-wide responsibilities. Although there are minor differences in administrator titles and job descriptions across the five campuses, each campus has a dean of instruction, a dean of students, and at least one associate dean in addition to the campus president. Shared governance leadership operates through three groups: the faculty association, which elects a faculty senate; the staff association; and the administrative association. All three groups are represented in the chancellor’s cabinet, and in most district level committees.

Assurance of educational quality is considered to be the domain of the faculty with oversight by the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, who serves as the Chief Academic Officer for the institution. District committees that decide academic matters include the District Instructional Coordinating Committee (DICC), the District Assessment Coordinating Committee (DACC), and the District Academic Technology Committee, all of which have majority-faculty membership. The deans of instruction operate campus academic affairs committees, which help ensure quality of campus academic programs. New or revised curriculum is vetted first by one of these campus committees, and then circulated to the other campuses for review. The Senate Curriculum Committee and the full faculty senate also vote on all curriculum actions before final approval by the DICC, which is chaired by the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs.

Continuous improvement of educational quality is also the responsibility of the faculty, with coordination by the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and other instructional administrators. On some campuses there is a separate assessment committee and on others that function is integrated into the campus academic affairs committee. Assessment processes and projects are coordinated by the DACC, which is chaired by a faculty member, with support from instructional administrators.

Resource allocation, budget, and revenues are reviewed annually based on feedback from every department, and the Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services makes district budget recommendations.
to the officer group. The proposed budget is reviewed and approved by the board of trustees, who have fiduciary responsibility for the college. At the campus level, resource allocations and budgeting are overseen by the campus presidents and administration with input from the departments that manage the budgets.

Evaluation and planning are responsibilities of the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, supported by the Chancellor’s Cabinet, which has representation from all governance groups. The full officers group also participates in these processes. Staffing is managed cooperatively at the officer level to ensure equity across the campuses, within the limitations of current fiscal realities. Services typically fall under either the Vice Chancellor of Student Services or the Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services with support and feedback from the Dean of Students and other personnel at each campus.

The college recognizes the importance of a uniform experience for students across locations, but it is also understood that in a complex institution the nature of programs and services offered may necessitate some variation and creativity within established guidelines. Administrative and staffing structures are similar at all locations, with some minor differences in responsibilities depending on the nature of programs and services being offered. The vice chancellors coordinate with campus leadership to align procedures and services across the campuses.

Campus data sheet follows.
Date of inception: Campus opened in 1969; HLC accreditation 1972; MCC single accreditation 1986.

Programs offered: A list of programs with actual and projected enrollment is in the Criterion 2 Summary.

Number of faculty: 72 FT and 226 PT

Number of Administrators: 9

Student services available:

- Academic advising
- Academic support and tutoring
- Athletics
- Career services
- Counseling
- Disability support services
- Enrollment services (registration, admission, and records)
- Financial aid
- Fitness Center
- Food services
- Library
- Student life
- Testing
- Veteran services

Additional locations linked to campus: Health Science Institute

Other campus-specific information:

MCC – Penn Valley offers a number of career programs including Paralegal, Graphic Design, Child Growth and Development, Nursing and Allied Health that are not available at other locations. Career programs in Education, Business, Criminal Justice, Engineering and Computer Science are districtwide programs available at this campus. MCC-Penn Valley also houses the Francis Institute which includes a childcare center; the Applied Language Institute, providing intensive ESL services to students; and two TRIO programs: Project Success (SSS) and Veterans Upward Bound. Penn Valley has a chapter of Student Veterans of America, and a dedicated space for veterans. The campus serves as the home to the Early College Academy for the Kansas City Missouri School district and affords high school students the opportunity to take college classes and earn their associate degree while completing their high school diploma.