

DACC NCA-HLC Self Study
Criterion Two: Preparing for the Future
Committee Meeting Minutes
Date: February 5, 2007
Location: Laura Lee, Lincoln Hall

Criterion Statement: “The organization’s allocation of resources and its processes for evaluation and planning demonstrate its capacity to fulfill its mission, improve the quality of its education, and respond to future challenges and opportunities.”

Present: Mike Cunningham, Viv Dudley, Jonathan Jett, Debbie Knight, Sarah Robison, Janet Redenbaugh, Janet Westberg

Guest/Resource Person: Randall Fletcher

Agenda/Objectives:

- Key Definitions and Concepts
- Group discussions addressing:
 - Who do we now serve and who do we expect to serve in the future?
 - What economic/business trends affect DACC’s present and future offerings?
- Global and national economic/business trends – Viv Dudley
- Addressing our Core Components

References:

Janet Redenbaugh noted that she is keeping files on all data collections and resources presented to the Committee. Mr. Fletcher added that pertinent references from all of the subcommittees will be maintained in the Resource Room. Also, the Higher Learning Commission has requested that when appropriate, references should be stored electronically and on CD for easy access by the visiting team.

Discussion Summary: The two groups met for 20 minutes to discuss their findings. Each team discussed the data collected by the team members and presented a brief summary of what had been discussed.

Who do we now serve and who do we expect to serve in the future?

Mike Cunningham presented graphs on Population changes 1990-2000, Unemployment rates 2000, Population by Race 2000, Population by Age Group – 2000.

It was noted that the population of rural America is declining, with 77% of the rural counties losing population between 2000 and 2004. The main source of income in Vermilion County has been manufacturing and farming, but this is changing. We can expect shifts in ethnic population, with growth in the Hispanic population. Also, the number of two parent families is decreasing, the population is aging, and population numbers are declining.

What economic/business trends affect DACC's present and future offerings?

John summarized a report from Vermilion Advantage on the decline of businesses. He noted that it differs from the information maintained by DACC. The Committee noted that the differences should be rectified.

The following observations and responses to data collection were made:

- Look globally and expand our offerings to attract students from outside the area; offer courses that are required on a global basis, i.e., graduates could obtain positions any place in the country.
- The college should identify the needs of the area outside of Danville (Champaign, Western Central IN).
- Supporting small businesses will become more important.
- As an educational institution, DACC should place a priority on maintaining up-to-date technology in curriculum and offices. The college will need to embrace the current technology and supply the needed staff support for both on-campus and on-line-courses.
- DACC must be able to respond to the economic trends. Discipline convergence is becoming more and more common; DACC must determine its place in this movement.
- The members noted that the educational field is changing to meet the requirements of business. It was suggested that in the future, degrees might not be as important as having the needed skills. Requirements for degrees may in the future not require the general education requirements of today.

Team members were asked to continue researching the trends. At our next meeting, we will re-examine the core components.

Meeting Adjourned 2:00 pm

Next Meeting: Monday, April 16 2007, Laura Lee